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Jan'y 1, 1864.

GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The Honorable General Assembly of N. C.:

Since your last adjournment, various and important changes in the situation of our affairs have occurred and many of them require legislative action at your hands.

The late act of Congress conferring power on the President of the Confederate States to impose regulations and restrictions on commerce has given rise to such a system, on the part of the Confederate authorities, as will effectually exclude this State from importing any further supplies for the army or people. The port of Wilmington is now more effectually blockaded *from within* than without. The terms imposed upon ship owners being such that a heavy loss is incurred by every voyage—and notwithstanding the said act provides: "That nothing in this act shall be construed to prohibit the Confederate States, or any of them, from importing any of the articles herein enumerated on their own account,"—yet this is so construed by the Government as to compel the States to submit to the same terms as are imposed on private parties; and clearances are refused and the guns of the fortifications brought to bear upon our own vessels to compel a compliance.

Private parties importing supplies for the government, by contract, for enormous profits, are not taxed by these regulations; yet the State of North Carolina, importing almost the *same* articles for the *same* purpose, is compelled to submit to them. I deem it inconsistent with the public interest to refer more particularly to our blockade-running transactions and the loss which the State will suffer on both ships and supplies on hand, if these regulations continue in force. When this is considered with the further fact, as I hold it, that the general government has no right to seize one-half, or *any part of*, the interest of a sovereign State in the vessels employed in importing her supplies, (this being the terms to which we are called upon to submit!) or to impose such regulations as will destroy instead of regulating commerce, it becomes your province to demand a repeal or modification of the act, and I respectfully and earnestly recommend that you do so. And in case Congress should decline to repeal or modify the act, I respectfully ask for directions as to what I shall do with the ships and supplies on hand. A detailed statement of these supplies, together with an account as accurate as it can be without vouchers for expenditures abroad not yet received, is herewith submitted—together with the report of Mr. John White, our special Commissioner to Europe. In reference to this gentleman, it is due to him that I should say, that I have every reason to be pleased with the skill and fidelity with which he performed the duties of his difficult mission. A report of the operations of our other Commissioner, Col. D. K. McRae, necessarily incomplete, is also submitted, and will I believe be found equally satisfactory, and creditable to him as Commissioner. In this connection I respectfully ask for the appointment of a committee to investigate all matters appertaining to the blockade-running of the State, to be appointed at an early day, so as to report to your present session if possible. No appropriation has been made by your honorable body to pay the current expenses of the vessels engaged in running the blockade, and none will be necessary, for these expenses can be paid by selling bills, drawn on our agent in England, as being incurred in Wilmington chiefly for the expenses connected with the loading and unloading vessels, compressing cotton, &c. And they can be discharged in currency. I would suggest that you authorize the Treasurer to purchase these bills out of any money in the Treasury, and thus keep the sterling exchange in the Treasury—which otherwise would have to be put on the general market, and be lost to the State.

Being convinced from experience that the legitimate business of my office, now four-fold greater than formerly, is sufficient to tax all my energies of mind and body, and that I cannot do justice to the interest of the State in a business so complicated, as many of the transactions of which is carried on at such a distance, I respectfully recommend that a commission of one or more gentlemen, skilled in such business, be appointed to conduct the future operations of the State, in importing supplies, whether for the purpose of continuing the operations or winding up the business.

A report of the Adjutant General, covering reports of his subordinates in the different departments, is herewith submitted.

The impressment of property of citizens by officers and agents of the Confederate Government, harsh enough in itself, has become doubly so, by the constant disregard of the provision of the law regulating seizures. In addition to this, the flagrant outrages committed, in every part of the country, by straggling soldiers, and other persons, in the Confederate service, having no shadow of authority to impress property, has become a grievance almost intolerable. A recital of many instances of such, which have been brought to my knowledge, would shock the moral sense of the most heartless.

I have urged in vain upon the authorities of the Confederacy to check this evil, and have used every possible effort to do so myself. But it seems to grow worse, and as the supplies of our people become more scant they feel more sensibly this unjust deprivation of their property, which reduces them almost to the verge of starvation. It must be stopped, if possible, and I earnestly recommend such action on your part as you may think best calculated to aid me in remedying the evil. My correspondence with the War Department on this subject is submitted for your consideration.

I desire to call your attention specially to certain enactments of the last Congress of the Confederate States. Among them is one extending the age of conscription from 18 to 17 and 45 to 50 years, which force is to be organized as a State reserve—their company officers to be elected, and the field officers appointed by the President, and all to be under his command.

In addition to the great injury to be apprehended to the agricultural interest of the country, should these men be ordered into actual service, I have to remind you that it will absorb the entire militia force of the State, and would leave the Executive with no force whatsoever except State officers, a condition dangerous at once to the peace and order of the State, and to its sovereignty and dignity. There can scarcely be a doubt of the inexpediency of this act as to this State; since the same men with the exception of boys from 17 to 18 are now very thoroughly organized as Home Guards under State authority, and have been heretofore and would be again promptly turned out in cases of great public danger. Grave doubts are also entertained of its Constitutionality; the forces raised under it being to all intents and purposes militia, the control of which cannot be legally taken from the Executive of the State Government—at least so far as the appointment and commissioning of officers is concerned. Should you, however, in the absence of a judicial decision as to the Constitutionality of the act, decline to take the responsibility of refusing assent to it, there will be an indispensable necessity of your constituting some militia for the preservation of law and order in the State—by extending the age of service in the militia, and by some new organization of the remnants of the Militia and Home Guard organizations; otherwise I shall have on my hands the officers of two distinct organizations, powerless for the want of men. In this connection I would mention that the same act of Congress has again conferred upon me, without reference to the Legislature, the power to claim the exemption of such State officers as I may deem necessary for the due administration of the laws. Not wishing to take so important a responsibility upon my shoulders without consulting the Representatives of the people, I have so far claimed the exemption of all civil and military officers of the State, together with the indispensable employees of the different departments of the State Government, as enumerated by your body at its late extra session. And I now respectfully ask that you indicate to me by resolution, what persons you regard as proper subjects for exemption.

I have taken the ground that exemption of State officers from conscription into the Confederate service is not by favor of Congress, but is a matter of right inherent in a sovereign State, and that for the same reason the State has an indisputable right to the services of laborers and other persons who are necessarily in her employ, though they be not *officers* within the meaning of the act of Congress. Should you again agree with me in this opinion, I would be happy to be sustained by a resolution to that effect.

Should you conclude to combine the Home Guard and Militia organizations, I recommend that the latter be preserved. I should regret exceedingly to see the militia abolished, and its organization destroyed. It is the ancient and time honored military institution of the State, her main dependence, in ordinary times, for the suppression of rebellion and repelling of invasion, and though shorn of its strength by the raising of great armies, and despite its many short-comings, it has been of great service both to the State and Confederacy during this war.

Among the acts of Congress referred to, that which has suspended the privilege of habeas corpus, has most thoroughly aroused public attention. Neither the losses incurred by the radical and sudden changes in the currency, nor the conscription of the principals of substitutes, nor the extension of it to such an age, and upon such terms as to place the industrial pursuits of the country at the feet of the President, nor the heavy burthens of taxation—none of these, nor all of them together, have so awakened the public feeling as the withdrawal of this time-honored and blood-bought guard of personal freedom from the people in times when it is most needed for their protection. It is true that our forefathers assumed, and this generation has conceded, that in cases of rebellion and invasion, the public safety may sometimes require its suspension; and, therefore, we have conferred on Congress the power of suspension in such cases, when the *public safety* may require it. Nor can it be doubted that the power authorized to suspend is the sole power entitled to judge of the necessity for the act, and if the late statute had merely prohibited out and out the use of the writ for the time specified, there could be no complaint against its constitutionality, however ill-timed and unnecessary may have been the exercise of a rigor so great. But I have been as unable to see, in the times, any necessity for denying the writ, as I am to recognize in the law the constitutional exercise of the power that is granted. Concurring in the doctrine that the protection against the abuse of the constitution of the Confederate States, either by usurpation of powers or oppressive use of such as are granted, is to be found in the responsibility of Congress to the people, ensured by their short tenure of office, and the reserved right of each State, to resume the powers delegated to the Confederate government, whenever in her judgment they are perverted to the injury or oppression of the people, I deem it a duty devolved on the State, through her proper organs, to make known to that government her complaints and to insist upon a redress of her grievances. Under this idea of duty, and in a spirit of regard for the government of our adoption, I deem it incumbent to present my objections against the late act.

It is declared in the preamble that "the President has asked for the suspension, and informed Congress of conditions of public danger which render a suspension of the writ, a measure proper for the public defence against invasion and insurrection." Therefore it is enacted that the writ shall be suspended as to "the cases of persons arrested or detained by order of the President, Secretary of War, or the General Officer commanding the Trans-Mississippi military department."

The statute proceeds to classify under thirteen heads a very great number of acts, of which, if a man be accused, he shall be deprived of the benefit of the writ; and among them the act of attempting to "avoid military service." To prevent the outrage which may be perpetrated on an innocent man not subject to military service for merely attempting "to avoid military service," unlawfully demanded, it is provided that "in case of palpable wrong and oppression by any subordinate officer upon any party who does not legally owe military service, his superior shall grant prompt relief to the oppressed party," and "the subordinate shall be dismissed from office."

And as a general protection of the citizens against abuses, under the act, it is provided, that "the President shall cause proper officers to investigate the cases of all persons so arrested or detained, in order that they may be discharged if improperly detained, unless they can be speedily tried in due course of law."

And, finally, it is enacted that "no military or other officer shall be compelled in answer to any writ of habeas corpus to appear in person or to return the body of any person detained by the authority of the President, Secretary of War" &c.; "but upon the certificate, under oath, of the officer having charge of any one so detained that such person is detained by him for any of the causes specified in the act under said authority, further proceedings under the writ shall immediately cease."

In order to ascertain whether the enactment is within the powers delegated, it is proper to keep in mind what are the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus, and we shall be sure to know what can be affected constitutionally, by a suspension of it. This writ is the offspring of the love of liberty, and has been in use for ages by our ancestors and ourselves, as the handmaid of freedom. Its use is to have enquiry made according to the rules of law of the causes why persons are restrained of their civil freedom. If upon enquiry by the proper authority, there be no cause for detention, the person is set at liberty. If there be cause he is remanded for farther detention, or allowed to go at large upon bail. Now, these are all the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus. The writ finds no place for action until after the person is arrested. So that if there be any privileges or securities to the person attending the mode of arrest, these are not the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus, but exist independently of them. And it is therefore clear that a power to suspend the privileges of the writ is not a power to suspend the privileges secured in forms attending the mode of arrest. They are too distinct to be confounded by any species of sophistry; and this distinction is plainly and notably observed in the bill to suspend the writ, passed through the Senate in January, 1807, which suspended it only when the person may have been "charged on oath," and arrested by virtue of "a warrant." The writ was as effectually suspended by that bill as by this act, and the Constitutional securities attending the mode of arrest, were left untouched and unimpaired. It may be then regarded as settled truth, that the suspension of the writ is no suspension of the Constitutional forms prescribed for arrest, and that Congress has no power, express, or implied, to suspend any other guarantee of civil liberty provided in the Constitution besides those secured by the writ alone. Notwithstanding this, the late act has strode over some of the most important guards of civil liberty, as if an express power had been conferred on Congress to suspend them likewise. Thus, while by paragraph 3, sec. 9, it is allowed Congress to suspend the privileges of the writ of habeas corpus, in the emergencies mentioned, it is by the same section, paragraph 15, in the most emphatic terms, declared that "No warrant shall issue but upon propable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the person to be seized." And by paragraph 16, that "no person shall be deprived of his liberty without due process of law"—that is, "law in its regular course of administration, through courts of justice," (1 Kent's Com. Sec. 24, paragraphs 13—14) The beginning of this due process is first the charge on oath, and the next step is the warrant describing the person to be seized. The third is the arrest, and until this takes place the habeas corpus has no status, and cannot possibly have any. At this point the writ springs into being, if not denied, and as here only its aid can be sought for the first time, so here for the first time can its privilege be derived. Yet the act involves with its suspension a suspension of the distinct and independent provisions which guard the citizen against a false charge and the dangers of a general warrant.

In my judgment Congress had the same power to suspend every other guard of civil liberty to be found in the constitution—the same to deprive the citizen of the guaranty that he should not be held to answer for a capital crime, unless on presentment or indictment of a grand jury—that he should not be compelled to be a witness against himself—that he should have the right to a speedy and public trial by an impartial jury, and a trial in the district in which the crime shall have been committed.

The writ of habeas corpus is peculiar to the English people and ourselves. And a complete illustration of the operation of a suspension of its privileges will be seen by supposing that it had no existence here. In such case no provision would have been found for its suspension. But the clause requiring a charge of crime to be made on oath and warrant to describe the person to be seized would have been not only very proper, but the more necessary to be inserted. These could not have been legally disturbed by Congress and any legislation dispensing with them had been mere usurpation and void.

Such is the general view I have taken of the act as it is supposed to relate to *crimes*. But the statute is construed to reach cases involving no offence whatever, legal or moral; and though there is some difference of opinion upon the question whether paragraph 5 of Sec. 1 embraces the case of a citizen not liable to military duty, who neither flies nor resists, but simply appeals or tries to appeal to the constitutional repositors of the law for a decision upon his rights; yet there is too much reason to believe that the language is susceptible of the interpretation that it does include such persons; and such is the interpretation put upon it by the military authorities. And as the suspension was asked by the President, it is but just to infer that it was drawn to suit him, and his exposition carries the intended meaning of the paragraph.

I am unable to see any reason consistent with the principles of a free and civilized government provided with a judiciary as a great and independent branch of its composition, for suspending the habeas corpus in cases which involve no evasion or attempt to evade military service that is due, but which merely asks when honest opinions differ to have the point settled by those tribunals which settle all matters of controversy between citizen and citizen and a citizen and his government. If a citizen owe not any military service to the government, he has as much right to refuse to render it when wrongfully claimed of him, as he has to refuse to pay a debt to the government wrongfully claimed of him; and if in both cases he stands fairly up and submits to an investigation of the question before those tribunals learned in such matters and appointed because of their fitness and skill, it would be just as reasonable to suspend the writ in the alleged debt of money as in the case of the alleged debt of service. This course might, and likely would hasten the payment of a debt just or unjust, and so it may serve to put men in the army exempt by the laws of the land.

There is no instance of a suspension at any time of the writ, or the privileges of the writ, if there be any difference between them, for any other cause, either in England or America. Many suspensions of the privileges of the writ occurred in England between the passage of the habeas corpus act and the Revolution, running through a period of almost a century, and they all empowered the King either to *apprehend and detain, or to secure and detain without bail* such persons as *are suspected of conspiracy* against the King and his government.

There was a British act in 1777, which denied the writ to "persons taken in the act of high treason, committed in any of the colonies, or on the high seas or in the act of piracy, or who were charged with or suspected of any of these crimes." (Hurd 132.)

The other suspensions in England, after our revolution, commenced in 1794, and continued at intervals till 1802, during the storms of the French Revolution. They are of the same character as those before, and affected those only who were charged with conspiring against the King and his government. The suspension during Shay's rebellion extended to crime or suspected crime. The attempted suspension in 1807 was confined to persons charged "with treason or other high crimes or misdemeanor, endangering the peace, safety or neutrality of the United States." The idea cannot be entertained for a moment that the power of suspending the writ was granted for any such purpose as that of depriving a citizen of the privilege of a legal enquiry into his obligation to perform military service, in order to fill the army with soldiers. If such a power exist the sovereignty of the States is at the mercy of the Confederate Government. Where lies the relief against the conscription of the entire body of State officers? By this act it is deposited with the President alone! His officers alone can give the discharge—Confederate officers chosen without even the consent of the Senate, and removed at will. The appropriate tribunals are entirely overlooked, the State Judges are thrust aside without ceremony, and even the Confederate Judge, who holds his office during good behavior, is ignored, and in their room is placed an officer who lives on the breath of the Confederate Executive. If the State officers are not put into the army under such power in the Executive, it is because the incumbent does not will it; and when the rights of the State shall exist by such a courtesy, they will cease to have any existence at all. It is hard to divine a sufficient reason for displacing the civil tribunals already established, and substituting others so dependent upon the Executive for their existence. The assurance of public men, that the power will not be abused, can never remove the fears of freemen, who rely only upon written Constitutions to protect their liberties. History is too full of wrong to allow them to forget for a moment that *eternal vigilance is the price of freedom.*

It is manifest that the act contemplates that the *military* shall be invested with full powers to arrest any person, who may be suspected of any of the vague and ill defined charges mentioned; and such is the interpretation put on it by the general orders of Adjutant Gen. Cooper, thus suspending the civil authorities throughout the land, and it is equally clear that it also contemplatns that the order of the President for arresting or detaining citizens shall be a general order to arrest and detain all such as may come within the category of suspected persons—without naming or describing the individuals, and each military officer who may be deputed for that purpose will be invested with a perfect discretion over the liberty of every citizen in the land. In substance and effect the President is intended to be empowered with authority to fill the land with military deputies who may seize any citizen without warrant or oath of probable cause under general warrant from the President to arrest all suspected persons. Such a warrant is without precedent in England for the last hundred years and during the entire century past has been forbidden, denounced, and declared void.

In my judgment the President is vested by the confederate constitution with no part of the judicial authority, except in cases arising in the land and naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service under his orders. If he is vested with a particle of civil judicial jurisdiction, where is the grant of it, and how far does it extend? If he has the power to issue a warrant for the arrest of a civilian suspected of violating a law of the Confederate States, he may make it returnable and examinable before himself, and order a discharge or require a bail. It is certain that the mere suspension of the writ of habeas corpus does not invest the President with the powers of a civil judicial magistrate, and if it could have that effect it could not give him an authority while discharging his judicial jurisdiction to lay aside the restraints imposed upon the other judges.

The course adopted by the Administration of allowing the writ of habeas corpus to issue, and of forthwith checking the action of the Judge and suspending all his farther proceedings ad libitum, to await the reports of military officers having custody of the petitioner to their superiors, and finally subjecting the case to the decision of the war department in derogation of civil authority, is humiliating to the independent character of the judiciary, and tends, in the great danger of liberty, to familiarize the people with a military supremacy.

It must be remembered, however, that these are merely my opinions. The Supreme Court, which alone has the power to decide upon the constitutionality of the law, has not yet spoken. When it does speak, we must give heed to its voice, so long as the law remains on our statute books, but whether for constitutional reasons, or reasons of mere policy, the people have a right to demand the repeal of any obnoxious law. On both grounds I recommend that you urge Congress to repeal the act suspending the privilege of habeas corpus; or, should you concur in the judgment of Congress, that a suspension is required by the exigencies of the times, that it should at least be modified and stripped of its unconstitutional or (at least) obnoxious features.

My opinion on this subject is well known. In the first message I had the honor to send to your body, in 1862, speaking of the then existing act authorizing a suspension of the writ, I used the following language: "I have not seen an official copy of the act, but learn from the newspapers that Congress has conferred upon the President the power to suspend the writ of habeas corpus in all cases of arrests made by Confederate authority. If this be once admitted no man is safe from the power of one individual. He could at pleasure seize any citizen of the State, with or without excuse, throw him into prison and permit him to languish there without relief—a power that I am unwilling to see entrusted to any living man. To submit to its exercise would in my opinion, be establishing a precedent dangerous and pernicious in the extreme," &c.

There is nothing of this that I am desirous of taking away or adding to. My earnest remonstrance against the passage of the present act is herewith transmitted, together with divers other letters to the Confederate authorities in relation to the execution of the civil laws, rights of the people, &c., and which will convince you, I trust, that I have been equally zealous to guard against the inner as well as the outer dangers which threaten us.

Many recurring dangers of serious conflict with the Confederate government, especially in relation to the seizure of principals of substitutes after a discharge by a judge, have been upon me since your session. They were fortunately avoided however; but their solution would have been easy, could I but have had the assistance of the Supreme Court. I greatly regret that you did not see proper to comply with my recommendation, when you were last in session, to authorize some one to convene that body in cases of great importance, and which admit of no delay. I can but repeat it now, for many obvious reasons.

Nor have I, amid all the embarrassments and perplexities of the situation, been unmindful of the great object of all our blood and suffering—peace, or neglectful of all proper and honorable efforts to obtain it—knowing the great desire of our people to save the precious blood of their children, if by any possibility, an opening might be found for the statesman to supercede the soldier, I approached the President on the first opportunity presented by the cessation of hostilities last winter, and urged him to appoint commissioners and try what might be done by negotiations. I had little hope, indeed, of those commissioners being received by the government of the enemy, but I thought it our duty, for humanity's sake to make the effort and to convince our own suffering people that their government was tender of their lives and property and happiness.

My letter to the President last December and his reply are sent herewith for your information.

I respectfully recommend that you, as the Representatives of the people of North Carolina, should lay down what you would consider a fair basis of peace, and call upon our Representatives in Congress, and those to whom is committed the power of making treaties, by the Constitution, to neglect no fitting opportunity of offering such to the enemy. These terms, in my judgment, should be nothing less than the independence of those States, whose destinies have been fairly united with the Confederacy by the voice of their people, and the privilege of a free choice to those which have been considered doubtful.

I presume no honorable man or patriot could think of any thing less than independence. Less would be subjugation, ruinous and dishonorable. Nobody at the North thinks of reconstruction, simply because it is impossible. With a constitution torn into shreds, with slavery abolished, with our property confiscated and ourselves and our children reduced to beggary, our slaves put in possession of our lands, and invested with equal rights, social and political, and a great gulf yawning between the North and the South filled with the blood of our murdered sons, and its waves laden with the *debris* of our ruined homes, how can there be any reconstruction with the authors of these evils, or how can it be desirable if it were possible? Lincoln, himself, says it is not possible; so does Mr. Fillmore, a man whom we once respected, and so do nine-tenths of their orators and presses. The only terms ever offered us contained in Mr. Lincoln's infamous proclamation, were alike degrading in matter and insulting in manner, being addressed not to the authorities, Confederate or State, of the South, but to individuals, who by the very act of accepting its terms would prove themselves the vilest of mankind.

I cannot too earnestly warn you, gentlemen, and the country, against the great danger of these insidious attempts of the enemy to seduce our people into treating with him for peace, individually or by the formation of spurious States or parts of States. Indeed I might add, that I look upon any attempts to treat for peace, other than through the regular channels provided by our constitution, so long as our government is maintained, as almost equally dangerous. It is the real peril of the hour. The long continuance and bloody character of the war, have so exhausted the patience of our suffering people that many of them are in a condition to listen eagerly to terms of peace, without duly considering what the results would be, or how they are to be acquired. An example of this great danger is to be found in the attempt of the British ministry in 1778 to seduce the loyalty of our forefathers from the cause of independence, by sending peace commissioners to the colonies with the propositions contained in Lord North's "conciliating bills." These bills proposed to abolish all taxation whatever upon the colonies, except what might be necessary for the convenience of commerce—the net proceeds of which were to go to the use of the colonies; to suspend the operations of all obnoxious statutes in reference to said colonies passed since 1763, and authorized these commissioners to pardon all such persons as they saw proper and to treat with "the existing governments or individuals." Here almost all the principal matters of dispute were conceded; but our fathers had an organized government and had set their hearts on independence. Yet the terms offered were so fair, that but for the firmness and wisdom of the great and good George Washington, and the unflinching patriotism of Congress, the fate of this continent might have been changed; so great was the weariness of the people and so gloomy were the prospects. The danger of allowing commissioners to address themselves to anybody but Congress was so great as well as such a violation of the laws of war and international courtesy, that that body, after promptly rejecting the propositions and declaring that "the only solid proof" of a disposition on the part of the crown to make an honorable peace with the colonies, "would be an explicit acknowledgment of the independence of these States, or the withdrawal of the fleets and armies" went on solemnly to declare the measure "to be contrary to the law of nations, and utterly subversive of that confidence which could alone maintain those means which had been invented to alleviate the horrors of war; *and that therefore the persons employed to distribute such papers were not entitled to the protection of a flag.*"

General Washington was so astonished and indignant, that on its first appearing he was induced to regard it as a forgery, and in a letter to the President of Congress, he used the following language, remarkable for its severity, coming from him: "The enclosed draft of a bill was brought to Headquarters yesterday afternoon by a gentleman, who informed me that a large cargo of them had just been sent out of Philadelphia. Whether this insidious proceeding is genuine and imported in the packets, or contrived in Philadelphia, is a point unde'ermined and immaterial; but it is certainly founded in principles of the most wicked, diabolical baseness, and meant to poison the minds of the people, and debauch the wavering at least from our cause." And again: "The necessity of putting the army on a respectable footing, both as to numbers and constitution, is now become more essential than ever. The enemy are beginning to play a game more dangerous than their efforts by arms (though these will not be remitted in the smallest degree,) which threatens a fatal blow to the independence of America, and of course to her liberties. *They are endeavoring to ensnare the people by specious allurements of peace.* It is not improbable that they have had such abundant cause to be tired of the war, that they may be sincere in the terms which they offer, which, though far short of our pretensions, will be extremely flattering to minds that do not penetrate far into political consequences; but whether they are sincere or not, they may be equally destructive; for to discerning men nothing can be more evident than that a peace on the principles of *dependence however limited after what has happened, would be to the last degree dishonorable and ruinous.* * * * "It is doubtful whether many of our friends might not incline to an accommodation on the grounds held out, or which may be, rather than persevere in a contest for independence. * * "This is the case it is not surely be the truest policy to strengthen the army, and place it upon a substantial footing. This will conduce to inspire the country with confidence; * * * and if a treaty should be deemed expedient, will put it in their power to insist upon better terms than they could otherwise expect."

By such timely counsel did the great Washington sustain the cause of *independence*—keeping up the hopes of our ancestors and laboring to meet those insidious attempts of the British to decoy them into the dangers of seeking peace by irregular and revolutionary methods. Again, in another letter to the same person, he says: "It seems to me nothing short of independence can possibly do. The injuries we have received from Britain can never be forgotten, and a peace upon other terms would be the *source of perpetual feuds and animosity.*" The civilized world, wherever *liberty* is worshipped, has with one voice thanked God for the gift of Washington—should we, his countrymen—recipients of the blessings of his wisdom and valor refuse to heed his warning voice?

Strange as it may seem, those "specious allurements of peace," described and denounced by Gen. Washington, have not been presented by the enemy. We are trying to delude ourselves so great is the hostility, and so furious the fanaticism of the dominant party at the North, that they have not even offered us terms that could be regarded by the most timid and wavering as "alluring." Lincoln's proclamation is so grossly outrageous and so repugnant to our every idea of liberty, property and honor, as to ensure the rejection of term—it holds out, while it adds weight and gives a tone of authority to the oft repeated assertions of their public men and presses that they want no compromise but will only be content with our subjugation. If our enemy were really willing, under any circumstances, to compromise with us upon any terms short of our absolute submission, they would certainly say so, and that to those whom they know to be authorized to entertain their propositions. The insidious attempts to invoke separate individual and State action, prove this conclusively, and can have no other intention than to plunge us into civil war and to subjugate us beyond redemption. How strange then to think, as some of our people honestly do, that the very plan proposed by the enemy for our destruction, is the best way to secure a speedy and honorable peace! I respectfully submit that my plan, based on the wisdom and patriotism of Washington, and the universal teaching of history—to strengthen and sustain the army, and negotiate through the proper channels—is the safer and better one.

It seems to me that the safe, true and conservative path through all our troubles, lies in guarding alike against the destruction of law and liberty on the one hand, and the impatience of the people under the burdens of war, on the other, while with both hands, and with all our strength, and hearts and souls, we uphold and maintain those who, even as I write, are battling and bleeding for the rights and independence of their country. I confess I am not of those, who seem to think the greatest danger to our rights and liberties is from our own people and our own government. While struggling to resist the inevitable tendencies of revolution to destroy civil freedom at home, I cannot forget that the danger from without threatens the destruction of *everything*, that these comes from the North a rank and bloody despotism, fierce and fanatical, gory without people's blood and blackened by the smoke of their burning homes, with hordes of armed slaves thirsting to complete the demoniac work of waste and destroying, and panting to sow salt in the furrows of the plowshare of desolation, as it runs over our race cities, and in whose march, forms of law, constitutions, free governments, life, home, property, all go down to rise no more, till God shall impose in the bosoms of a new generation the principles of liberty and love of peace, which this, in its madness, has cast off.

In addition to the many brilliant victories which have crowned our arms this Spring in all parts of the Confederacy, I have the sincere pleasure to congratulate you upon the very splendid success of the opening of the campaign in our State, resulting in the re-capture of the towns of Plymouth and Washington, and the rescue of a considerable portion of our territory from the enemy. This is the more gratifying be'ause it was accomplished by troops under the command of two distinguished sons of North Carolina—Brigadier, now Major General Hoke commanding the land forces, and Commander Cooke with the steam ram Albemarle. I doubt not but that you will see the propriety of rendering public thanks to those gallant officers and the brave officers and men under their command, for the conspicuous heroism which has been rewarded by such splendid results. We confidently and gladly we come back our fellow citizens of this region, thus rescued from the enemy, to the embraces of their mother State, and thank them for their steadfast adherence to our cause under the tyranny and oppression of our foes. Indeed, it is gratifying to observe the very great loyalty and devotion of that whole portion of our State adjoining or contiguous to the enemy's lines, which has been alike subjected to his blandishments and his ravages. May the day speedily come when our jurisdiction shall again extend to the sands of the Atlantic.

Several other matters, which I deem it unnecessary to specify, will thrust themselves upon your attention.

In regard to financial matters, the interesting Report of the Public Treasurer is so full and complete that I am content merely to refer you to it, confident that I could not improve upon any of his suggestions, which I, in the main, endorse.

The poor, especially the indigent families of our soldiers, still demand our care. It is justly conceded that when they are not able to support themselves, the State should support them in the absence of their natural protectors. I cannot, however, make any specific recommendation for their further relief, but should any plan occur to your superior wisdom, I doubt not but you will promptly act upon it. It will be very difficult for many of them to struggle through till harvest, especially in some of the counties of the west, which have been preyed upon alike by friend and foe.

Trusting that harmony will prevail in your counsels, and that much good may, under God, result to the country therefrom, I close my message with an expression of readiness to co-operate with you—should it lie in my power—in the execution of the labors devolving upon you.

Z. B VANCE

Executive Department, May 17, 1864.

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

THURSDAY EVENING, MAY 19, 1864.

GLORIOUS VICTORIES!—God be praised for the signal victories with which He has blessed the Confederate armies! From North and South they come! borne on the wings of Heaven's messenger, the lightning, they evidence God's goodness and mercy to this people.

We have little room for comment, but give all the particulars received by telegraph and mail. Of Banks's grand army, said to have been originally from 32,000 to 40,000, a miserable remnant of 5,000, with their General along, have made their escape to NewOrleans. The remainder have been killed, wounded, captured or dispersed. We have captured also the fleet of war vessels with which he started on his expedition. We should not wonder if we now regain command of the Mississippi and its immense tributaries, and even recapture New Orleans itself. Louisiana, Mississippi and Arkansas will be redeemed, and we do not despair of seeing Missouri also welcome Price and his army.

Surely the end of this terrible war is near!

THE MAILS.—We are yet without mails north of Raleigh, and have not been so fortunate as the Raleigh Confederate in securing copies of the Virginia papers. The interesting details of events in Virginia in the preceding page, taken from late Virginia papers, reach us through the Confederate.

THE LEGISLATURE.—Thirty Senators and sixty-nine Commoners were present on Tuesday, the first day of the session. The Governor's Message was read and both Houses adjourned.

We received the Message at a late hour last night, and hasten to publish it in full, without having an opportunity as yet to read it.

NEWBERN.—Reports of a yankee evacuation of Newbern come to us from so many and apparently reliable sources that we would put implicit reliance upon them but for the fact that that no such statement appears to have reached Raleigh, as we think would have been the case if so important an event had occurred. One account is that the inhuman monsters burned the town before leaving.

SUPERIOR COURT.—The Spring Term of Court for this County was held this week by Judge French. The trial of two deserters for the murder of Mr. D. J. Colvin was removed to Harnett county. The only case of interest tried was that of the State versus Graham D. Baker, Esq., for distilling whiskey from grain. It resulted in a conviction, and the Court imposed a fine of $5,000, with 60 days' imprisonment.

The Court adjourned yesterday.

SAD CASUALTIES IN VIRGINIA.—Just as we are going to press the following private dispatch (on the way since Sunday last,) brings most sad intelligence as to some gallant young soldiers from this place:—

RICHMOND, May 15.—Capt. Robinson, ankle shattered. Lieut. C. T. Haigh reported killed. Lieut. H. W. Horne and Lieut. C. P. Mallett captured. Lieut. W. T. Anderson missing.

COL. MCKETHAN'S REGIMENT.—We copy elsewhere an account of a gallant affair in which two companies of this regiment were engaged near Petersburg last week. The whole regiment was engaged in Monday's battle and suffered severely, as will be seen by the following dispatch received here yesterday by the Colonel's father:

PETERSBURG, May 18.—We charged the enemy Monday, driving them before us in wild confusion. My Regiment had 25 killed and 111 wounded. All the boys from town safe. The Express will give you full list of casualties.

H. MCKETHAN, Col. 51st N. C. T.

WOUNDED NORTH CAROLINIANS.—The Richmond Dispatch of the 11th reports Col. C. M. Avery, 33d N. C. T., Lane's Brigade, as wounded severely in arm and leg. His arm has been amputated. Lieut. Col. Winston, 45th, wounded in leg, but not dangerously. Col. John R. Lane, 26th, slightly.

Lt. Col. Davidson, 7th, is reported captured.

A POWERFUL APPEAL.—The people of North Carolina are called upon to contribute to the relief of the destitute and suffering people of Washington, N. C., who, to the disasters of yankee rule for two years, have the added calamity of seeing their dwellings and in many instances all else that they possessed destroyed by the torch of the vile miscreants. We have not room to-day for a more particular statement, but hope that our Town authorities will take the matter in hand, and give the people an opportunity to show that they sympathise with their fellow citizens in their calamities.

GOV. VANCE will address the people of Johnston county, at Smithfield, on Monday next, the 23d.

Of the Governor's speech at Raleigh on Monday last no full account has been published. Judging from the fluttering of the wounded pigeons, it must have been a most effective speech.

BACKING ONE'S FRIENDS.—Mr. Holden has pretended that he was not a secessionist. We have proved from the files of the Standard that for ten years he advocated that doctrine, that in fact it was he of all others that educated a portion of the people of North Carolina into a belief in that doctrine. His "facilities for gathering public opinion," of which he boasts, enabled him, however, to discover that secession was not popular just at the time that it was put in practical operation by the cotton States. Therefore he then suddenly became opposed to secession. Those same facilities for gathering public opinion showed him that when Lincoln issued his proclamation in April 1861, it would be popular to pledge "the last dollar and the last man" to resist it, and so Mr. Holden made that pledge. Those same facilities once more showed him that the people—everybody, man, woman and child—desired peace, and forthwith he was *par excellence* a peace man, and set to work to ridicule the "last dollar and the last man" men, of whom he himself was first and chief. In this work he has been seconded most zealously by the Raleigh Progress, which has served as his organ during the suspension of the Standard. This Progress was also a fire-eating secessionist, and in attempting in a sort of side way to *appear* to deny the fact, the Progress says that the Breckinridge and Lincoln tickets were both *"sectional tickets, gotten up and advocated for no other purpose than to disrupt the old government and bring on war."*

This is a hard hit at the Progress's friend Holden, who abandoned the regular nominee of his party (as he declared Douglas to be) to advocate the election of one of those sectional tickets, the Breckinridge ticket!

ANOTHER HARD HIT.—The Raleigh Standard abuses Gov. Vance for relating in his speech in this place, the conduct and language of Mr. Holden on the night of the Raleigh mob. The Standard says that even a wild Arab has more regard for the rights of hospitality than Gov. Vance. We have already stated that it was the Standard's infamous charge of corruption in using the steamer Ad-Vance to import luxuries that justified and demanded that statement from Gov. Vance. The Raleigh Conservative alludes to the matter in the following caustic style:

"It is said to be true that a "wild Arab" holds the guest sacred who has eaten his salt, and will suffer no evil to befall him while under his roof. And it is also true that the wild Arab guest will steal the mare of his wild Arab host after he leaves the tent, if he can: whereupon it is the custom of the host Arab to pursue the thief and break his head, salt or no salt, when overtaken.

"Now did it not strike this most Chesterfieldian candidate for Governor that the violation of hospitality came from the visiting "Arab?" Being attacked by his foes and driven from his own tent, the guest Arab seeks a refuge in the tent of his neighbor. The host flies to his rescue, disperses the assailants who were outraging his property—then returning, comforts his distressed visitant and ministers to his fainting soul refreshing draughts, to-wit: "Brandy and loaf sugar." No sooner, however, was the guest off and relieved of his fright, than he uses the very property saved by his host (printing press, type, &c.) to slander and traduce him, by alleging that he did not honestly acquire the very brandy by which he was refreshed. To mention a respectable "wild Arab" in connection with such conduct is a slander on oriental character."

The Columbia Carolinian says that Flour has fallen in that market nearly one-half from former prices, and that other kinds of produce have declined.

MARRIED,

At the residence of the bride's father, in this vicinity, on Tuesday morning last, by the Rev. Mr. Hardwick, Mr. HENRY E. COLTON, to Miss SOPHIA MCDANIEL, daughter of the Rev. James McDaniel.

DIED,

In this town, on Tuesday morning last, Mr. DUNCAN MCNEILL, one of our oldest and most respected citizens.

Near Laurinburg, Richmond county, April 5th, JOHN BLUE, aged 68 years.

Near McKenzie's B

THE BATTLES IN VIRGINIA.

From the Richmond Dispatch of the 18th inst.

The commander of the force which is now operating around the fortifications of Richmond is Gen. Sheridan, who was formerly commander of the cavalry with the Federal army at Chattanooga, and was taken from there with Grant when he came to Virginia. The force under him is represented by prisoners at the round figure of 20 000, all mounted infantry.

[These were the troops with whom Stuart fought at Yellow Tavern on the 12th. The Dispatch here gives a list of the wounded in the fight, among them from North Carolina: Lt W T White, G; Lt J W Tate, F; Capt W J Collins, G;—(all classed as 3d, but should be 63d, cav alry regiment in Gordon's Brigade)—F S Amour G 24; G Campbell, I. 49th; J W Dry, F; D Johnson, K. J Ray, A, 1st Cav; W A Matthews, A, V E May, G, Lt C Pattrn, C, and Lt P Parcock, 5th Cav; Brig Gen Gordon, with a musket-bullet wound in the left arm, which will have to be amputated. The ball entered the forearm, breaking the bone, and passing through the muscle of the same arm above the shoulder] He died on the 18th.

From the Richmond Dispatch of the 14th inst.

The news yesterday was very scarce. The chief point of interest was the departure of the enemy from the fortifications around Richmond. This change in the yankee programme can hardly be explained, except from the fact that no movement was made on the South side in response to their appearance before the city. About sundown, the forces under Sheridan, which have been before the city for several days, commenced their movement down the Peninsula. A good many horses which had been tired out their shot, lost, or were torn into string, and accoutrements burnt.

The prisoners of this party, of whom 31 were brought in yesterday, represent that it was a picked command, intended for the capture of the city, and seem at a loss to account for the failure to assault the works

From the Petersburg Express, of the 16th inst.

The latest from Richmond reaches us through a gentleman who read a copy of the Enquirer of Saturday last. That paper asserts, we hear, that there had been no fighting of consequence between Gen Grant and Gen Lee, since Wednesday. On that day we were as usual successful, and succeeded in repulsing every assault of the enemy. The portion of our line is said to have met with unsurpassed bravery, the men fighting with a desperation unknown in the annals of American warfare, and driving the enemy back with terrible slaughter.

THE BROOKE ROAD FIGHT—STUART'S DEATH

The Enquirer states that in the fight on Brooke turnpike, on Wednesday evening, at the Yellow Tavern the enemy had 700 or more cavalry, and about 800 infantry. We were greatly outnumbered, but our men knew the importance of the issue, and fought with a heroism never surpassed. Many a noble son of the South went down in the conflict, but the object desired was accomplished. The enemy were checked, driven back, and Richmond was saved.

We regret to hear that Maj Gen J. E. B. Stuart one of our most distinguished cavalry officers, and long known for the eminent part he has acted in this war in connection with the Army of Northern Virginia, was mortally wounded. He lingered until Thursday evening at 2½ o'clock, when death terminated the career of as gallant a man as ever wore, shipped at Liberty's shrine. Gen. Stuart was a graduate of West Point, and not more than thirty years of age. He was a man of splendid physique—tall, well proportioned, and had a face of most prepossessing appearance. He was a native of Henry or Patrick county, Va., and leaves a wife and one or more children.

THE FIGHT AT DREWRY'S BLUFF ON THE 10TH.

Our informant also states the Enquirer ascertains through reliable sources, that the enemy's losses in the fight near Drewry's Bluff last Tuesday, amounted to 1000 men. A horrible incident is related in connection with this fight. The enemy left many of their wounded on a portion of the battle field, where the woods subsequently took fire, and the unfortunate creatures were burned alive. Our wounded were all removed to places of safety, as fast as they fell, and from thence taken to the hospitals in Richmond.

THE FIGHT AT DREWRY'S ON THE 14TH.

It was reported yesterday, we are inclined to think correctly, that the enemy assailed our outer line of fortifications at Drewry's Bluff Saturday night at 11 o'clock, and in overwhelming numbers, but were repulsed with great slaughter. The enemy's loss is estimated at 1000; ours 200. We regret to hear that Gen Matt W. Ransom was slightly wounded in the arm.

It was reported here yesterday, that our forces encountered a large body of the yankee raiders, who fought our troops at the Yellow Tavern Wednesday afternoon, on Saturday, near Malvern Hill, below Richmond, and whipped them badly. It is said that we captured 1000 prisoners on this occasion, all of whom had been taken to Richmond.

SPEARS' RAIDING PARTY.

We regret to announce, that at last accounts, the Spears raiders were in the fairest portion of South Side Virginia, destroying railroads, burning depots, stealing provisions and running off negroes. In Saturday's issue it was stated that they had destroyed Coalfield Station, 13 miles from Richmond on the Danville Railroad, and had started from thence to Mattoax, 27 miles from Richmond, for the purpose, it was supposed, of destroying a valuable iron bridge which spans the Appomattox at that point. Upon reaching Mattoax, they found a force ready to meet them, and after a sharp fight, retreated, crossed Good's Bridge 6 miles distant, and proceeded to Amelia C H. Here a sharp fight occurred Saturday morning, at daylight, which resulted in the repulse of the enemy. During the night they succeeded in getting possession of Chula, a station between Mattoax and Amelia Courthouse, where they captured an engine and train. It is stated that they have a large force, between 3000 and 5000 and some estimate the number as high as 7000. They have 16 pieces of cannon. Reports say that the enemy lost heavily at both places, while the Confederate loss was small.

From the Petersburg Express of the 17th inst.,

We copy some interesting news in the Press dispatches which did not reach this place on account of the telegraphic interruption:—

FROM GENERAL LEE'S ARMY

GUINEA'S STATION, May 12.—Very little of interest transpired yesterday. Heavy skirmishing occurred at intervals during the whole of last night.

This morning, at daylight, the enemy having massed heavy forces in front of Johnston's division made a most vigorous assault upon Jones's brigade. For a while our line of battle was broken, and the enemy pressed over our breastworks, gaining possession of several pieces of our artillery and capturing a number of prisoners. Forces, however, were qu ckly sent to the relief of those thus engaged, and the enemy was driven back.

About 10 o'clock this morning the enemy made most vigorous and repeated assaults upon Field's division but were driven back with great slaughter. At 2 o'clock P M., the enemy are making a most desperate fight in Ewell's front; but all accounts concur that we are driving them back and punishing them with great slaughter.

The musketry firing to day was the heaviest of the war. The battle has extended along the whole line today, and has been fought by the yankees with more vim and bravery than any other fought on Virginia soil.

Among our casualties are Brig. Gen Perrin, killed; Brig. Gen Walker, of the Stonewall brigade, wounded in the arm; Col Garrett, of the Fifth N. C., killed; Brig. Gen McGowan, reported wounded.

We captured 2000 of the enemy's wounded, left by them at the Wilderness. Yankee papers of the 7th con ain letters written from Grant's headquarters acknowledging a loss of 20 000 men in the Wilderness fight. Yankee prisoners say that Gen. Grant is putting fresh troops in the fight to-day.

At 2 o'clock severe and continuous fighting had occurred all along our lines, but the enemy had been everywhere repulsed, and in some cases we have driven the enemy before us. A heavy rain has been falling all day and a greater part of last night to add to the discomfort of our troops, but our men are buoyant and resolute. So far we have achieved grand results, but the enemy are still pressing the battle with desperation.

Our loss to day is not very heavy, as we have been fighting mostly behind breastworks. The enemy are fighting in the open field, and their loss must be terrible. Hill's whole corps has been extensively engaged all day, recovering in some instances the ground lost by other troops, and Mahone's and Lane's brigades, about 2 o'clock, made a most gallant charge capturing about 200 prisoners, and a number of stands of colors. Gens. Edward Johnson and G H. Stuart are missing, and are supposed to have been captured.

About 8 P. M., the firing ceased in front, and, in a great measure, all along the lines, and it is supposed the enemy are gradually moving back.

BATTLE FIELD SPOTTSYLVANIA C. H., May 13, via GUINEA STATION, May 14.—The battle yesterday (Thursday) lasted all day and late into the night. Our men, after a temporary repulse in front of Johnson's Division, successfully resisted every onset of the enemy, who repeatedly assaulted our line with troops massed, as some say, in two columns. Our boys stood nobly to their work, piling the enemy's dead thickly before our breastworks. At the lowest estimate their loss yesterday was 20,000. These figures are corroborated by a wounded Colonel in our hands. Our losses are estimated at 2000.

The fighting was at one point continuous for ten hours, and so severe was the musketry firing that trees were cut down by it.

Prisoners say that Grant expresses the determination not to recross the river while he has a man left.

Our troops fought yesterday with more than usual bravery, and the enemy more stubbornly than ever. There has been no general engagement to-day. A heavy rain has been falling since 4 a. m., and the roads are deep in mud.

The enemy yesterday bayonetted some of our wounded men in the breastworks. To-day he is still in our front, strongly fortified.

SPOTTSYLVANIA C. H., May 14.—There was only slight infantry skirmishing to-day, with occasional discharges of artillery. Grant shows no signs of falling back. Scouts report that he is receiving no reinforcements, though prisoners say that he is expecting Sobeck with troops from Baltimore and other places. It is believed that Heintzleman, with troops from the fortifications at Washington, was with Grant in the fight of Thursday.

Johnson's (Confederate) Division in the fight of Thursday, lost about 2000 prisoners and 16 pieces of artillery, principally from Page's and Crenshaw's brigades. Grant's dead in our front are still unburied. The enemy are busy all day in shifting troops from point to point, and manœuvering generally.

General Daniel, of North Carolina, wounded in the fight of Thursday, died to-day. Gen. Ramseur was also slightly wounded.

There were about 1 500 prisoners captured during these fights.

Grant's losses since the opening of the campaign are run down at 50 000 as the lowest figure—our losses, killed, wounded and missing, in the same time, are not over 15 000.

Our troops have been marching and fighting and lying in line of battle twelve days, but to-day their spirits are fine, and their resolution invincible.

The troops are receiving adequate rations and the animals a sufficiency of forage.

RICHMOND, May 16.—A dispatch from Gen. Lee to President Davis, dated Sunday night, says the enemy was defeated his right and extended his left towards Massaponax Church, occupying the line of the river—his main force being apparently east of that stream.

BRILLIANT VICTORY IN CHESTERFIELD.

RICHMOND, May 16.—An extra Whig of this afternoon says that a general engagement commenced in Chesterfield about daylight this morning. Gen Rob ert Ransom turned the enemy's right flank, capturing several hundred prisoners, including Gen Heckman and Staff. Near the Half Way House our forces made a vigorous assault upon the enemy's centre, capturing several pieces of artillery several stand of colors, and a considerable number of prisoners.

CAVALRY FIGHT NEAR FREDERICKSBURG

GUINEA'S STATION, May 15.—Yesterday evening there was a cavalry fight on our left wing. A body of infantry engaged Gen. Chamblis' Brigade of cavalry, who fought them for some time, until our infantry came to their support, when Chamblias drove them back, capturing about 100 prisoners.

Our wounded are slowly arriving here, preparatory to being sent to Richmond.

Brig. Gens McGowan and R D Johnston are slightly wounded in addition to those previously reported.

Thus far, we have lost about 17 general officers killed, wounded and captured, and about 35 field officers

AVERILL'S RAIDERS DEFEATED

RICHMOND, May 16.—Official news from Southwestern Virginia, says Averill was routed at Newport, Giles county by Jackson and French, and scattered in the mountains. The lead mines and Salt works are safe

GOOD NEWS FROM BRECKINRIDGE

RICHMOND, May 16.—The following was received last night.

NEW MARKET, May 15.—This morning 2 miles above New Market, my command met the enemy under Seigel advancing up the valley and defeated him with heavy loss. The action has just closed at the Shenandoah river. The enemy fled across the north fork of the Shenandoah, burning the bridge behind him

JOHN C BRECKINRIDGE

From the Richmond Examiner of the 16th inst.

When the last number of this journal went to press, authentic news had been obtained of an assault in force on Lee's breastworks continued through the whole of Wednesday, and repulsed with tremendous punishment of the enemy. Rumors were circulated of a renewal of the same desperate effort on Thursday, but were unsupported by evidence. We now know that these rumors contained nothing that was not true. Grant had received a full corps of fresh troops—kept back up to that moment to defend the trenches of Washington—and risked with the recklessness of a true gambler on that cast of the dice. He attempted no manœuvre. He relied on main strength—bringing up his two lines at a run, each one close behind another, and dashed them like the waves of the sea against the rocks, on the breastworks of the South. By these tactics, either a perfect victory is won or an attacking army is lost. The first rush was successful on one point. The enemy broke through the blaze of the living volcano upon Johnson's men, leaped the works, took 2000 prisoners and 16 guns. But reserves were ready, and a charge of greater fury than their own drove them out in a brief time. On all other parts of the line they were entirely unsuccessful. They were utterly repulsed; with scarcely any loss to the Confederates, who fired with the advantage of rest, aim and cover; but with a slaughter of the foe which is represented by universal testimony to have been the most terrible of modern warfare.

In these two battles the army of Northern Virginia has enjoyed, for the first time, the advantage of firing into the enemy with grape and rifle balls from lines of substantial breastworks; and if one may judge from the high spirits and unbounded confidence of the wounded men who have come to this city from the battle, it has been highly gratified by the new position. "We just *mowed* them down every time,"—such is the only account they give of the struggle.

The Confederate loss killed, wounded and missing, in all these battles, beginning with the Wilderness and concluding with that of Thursday last at Spottsylvania C. H., was under 15,000. The Washington Chronicle, the organ of Lincoln, that sees all things in the rose's color, announces the "depletion" of Grant's army by the battle of the Wilderness, and "other causes," to have been, on *Tuesday evening* ascertained, *thirty five thousand*. To this awful figure must now be added the two days of unsuccessful assault on the breastworks of Spottsylvania—assault without manœuvre, full in front, with deep columns, each feeding the other on to the mus sles of the guns—wherein the carnage and loss must in the necessity of things, have been many times greater than in the open battles of the Wilderness and succeeding days. Putting the two data together, it is impossible to don t the deduction that Grant's "depletion" by killing, wounding and "other causes"—that is to say, by struggling, desertion, &c—has surpassed 70,000

The disproportion of numbers between the antagonists was very great when the Federal General crossed the Rapid Ann, and it is probable that he has since received the troops originally retained to defend Washington; but that disproportion was wonderfully reduced when the gun went down on Thursday afternoon.

The capture of a brigade and 16 cannon from our line is certainly a disagreeable circumstance; but that the victory on Thursday was indubitable and complete and immense in effect upon the enemy, is proven beyond cavil, by the fact that he laid still behind his own breastworks all Friday without firing a shot. Considering that he had commenced the work on Wednesday morning and continued it with unabated vigor till long after sunset; that he has begun where he left off on Thursday at the break of light and rushed, charge after charge, upon Gen Lee, throughout the day; this fact, that the next dawn found him still and silent, is most significant Gen Lee announces, in the dispatch received last night that he *himself* was in condition to resume the offensive on Saturday, and made a partial attack with brilliant success.

Nevertheless, we have no idea that Lee and Grant have yet settled their accounts in full. Grant will get up the last raskings of the Northern army and try again. He is said to have made everybody about him understand that he will not re-cross the river while he has a living man under his orders. There are butchers of humanity to whom the sight of their fellow-creatures' blood affords an intoxicating pleasure; they are indifferent whose blood it is, so that it does not come from their own veins; and Grant is one of these charming individuals. His Government and his brother Gens will not baulk him in the present instance. A large part of the army now in his hands is composed of the regiments enlisted for three years, and their term expires in this coming summer. They have resisted every inducement to re enlist; and have formally notified the Secretary of War that they will obey orders so long as they are legally given. But no longer. The Government is entirely willing that Grant should save it the trouble and mortification of giving the discharge to these veterans. He will use them—and he is using them.

The question occurs will these men submit thus to be put in the shambles again and again? We answer, yes. Considered as individuals, they are no braver now than when they ran away at Manassas. But they have been drilled in arms for three years. They are entirely bound by the magic of military discipline. When ordered to go into the fire, however little they like it, they cannot resist the spell—they will go and stand up until shot down. But if Grant will only continue the tactics of Wednesday and Thursday, they will soon be relieved from the inconvenience. We only fear that he will now depart from that favorite game, and think twice before he forces assaults with seven and ten lines of men on the army of Northern Virginia, ensconced in trenches. It might do very well against an army that could be scared—but the army of Northern Virginia, cannot be scared. Instead of marching up to the breastwork again, the last account represents him changing his position; and while he will not confess defeat by re crossing the Rappahannock, he may yet go down the river and re-appear in the Peninsulas.

Dismissing such speculation, we recommend to the reader the summary of the Northern journals which is laid before him this morning. First, we have the journals of the 10th. They contain the news of the Wilderness fight. The accounts of fact from the fields have enough truth in them to leave no doubt as to the defeat of the yankee army and the utter rout of an entire corps. Yet believing it to have been the decisive engagement, extravagantly elated that Grant had not broken entirely down, and supposing Lee to have suffered as much as Grant, the Government at Washington committed the astounding blunder of uttering official declaration of a complete victory, representing Lee as flying in rout to Richmond, and Grant pursuing hotly. Nor did it take this step half way. These stories are put forth in a solemn proclamation signed Abraham Lincoln, calling on the people of the United States to join in a public thanksgiving for the victory which concludes the war. Stanton, the Secretary, who has hitherto been satisfied with the editorials of his newspapers, and the cooked dispatches of the Generals, is now content with no second-hand fibers, and will have no *sub* lying. He lies for himself, and does it with a *vim* unsurpassed in the annals of the art. He sends out a telegram over his own name that Lee has fled, is without a hose left, and that Grant is, indeed, and at last, "On to Richmond." Were these persons drunk, or were they really deceived? Surely nothing could be imagined more injurious to themselves than the reaction which must follow when fresh troops had to be sent on, and new slaughters admitted within a few miles of the final; when Grant was announced at Chancellors, instead of Richmond. We await, with impatience, the next issues of these voracious and refreshing sheets of the New York press. True, we have some excerpts from those of the 12th; but they are incomplete, and they have only the news of the first check at Sp t sylvania C H—that of Tuesday. Even that preliminary appears to have a marked effect. The mercantile mind of the Herald calculates, that if it costs Grant 7 000 killed and wounded to get as far as Spottsylvania, his trip to Richmond will be a rather expensive affair. Stanton does not treat the world with another telegram As for the "Presidential Joker" he has lost his piety, and has no further news from Gen. Grant, except that he *was like the man that climbed the pole and pulled it up after him.*" Monkeys climb the pole also. When men or monkeys descend poles, they slide.

From the Richmond Dispatch of the 17th inst.

Our losses up to Saturday night last, in the battles between Lee and Grant, commencing on Thursday, 5th of May, were comparatively slight. The Charlottesville Chronicle understands that Dr. Gill, Gen Lee's Medical Director, instructed our authorities at Orange Court House not to approve of any telegram which should estimate our loss up to Saturday night at a higher figure than 6000 in killed, wounded and missing; and the Dr. said that he felt convinced that 4500 would cover our whole loss up to that time. We have it from high authority that Gen Lee himself estimated the enemy's loss at full 30 000

From the Petersburg Express of the 18th inst.

ANOTHER BATTLE IN LEE'S ARMY ON SATURDAY.

Grant renewed the contest with Gen Lee Saturday. In relation to this fight, a participant furnishes the Richmond Enquirer with the following particulars: During the engagement the enemy charged and broke through the lines of Jones', Walker's (Stonewall) and a part of Stewart's brigades and fell upon the left flank of Lane's (North Carolina) brigade, taking a few prisoners, before the brigade could form properly to repel the enemy. Gen Lane, with all the rapidity possible, swung back his left, pitched into the enemy, drove him back with terrible slaughter, and recovered the works on the right. Then the brigades of Gens. Gordon, Thomas and Doles, coming to Lane's assistance, they all jumped over the breastworks and pursued the enemy deep into the woods, continuing the pursuit until ordered back by Gen. Lee.

In the afternoon, the enemy directed an attack upon what Lane's brigade was ordered to take the assault. Lane's brigade was charged in flank, by way of diversion, by column and a battery in flank, by way of diversion in the battery, which consisted of 6 twelve-pounder Napoleon guns, but our men darted forward, shot down the cannoniers, captured the pieces, brought off the guns, prisoners, and 3 stands of colors. The cannon were abandoned, there being no horses on the ground to bring them off.

Our informant states that Gen Edward Johnson was certainly captured in Thursday's fight.

OFFICIAL DISPATCH FROM GEN. LEE

Confirmatory of the above, Gen Lee telegraphs to the President from Spottsylvania Court House, May 14, as follows:

"The enemy assaulted Wilcox's lines this morning, and were handsomely repulsed. Mahone's and Lane's brigades attacked his left, capturing 800 prisoners and 4 stands of colors. Light skirmishing along the whole lines during the day. The enemy seems to be moving towards our right. In the afternoon Wright's and Harris's brigades assaulted his left and captured some prisoners and one stand of colors. R. E. LEE"

THE FIGHT AT DREWRY'S BLUFF ON MONDAY.

All accounts concur in representing the fight of Monday near Drewry's Bluff, as being one of the most gallant and glorious of the war—numbers considered.

We have between 2000 and 3000 prisoners, several pieces of cannon, a large lot of ammunition, and many other valuable stores. But better than all, we killed and wounded at least 2000 of the enemy, and have the balance of the Bermuda Hundred army, with Butler at their head, hemmed up in a little neck of land between the James and Appomattox rivers, hugging the water under cover of their gunboats.

The battle was opened on the left at 8½ o'clock, by Gen Gracie's Brigade, and soon became general. President Davis was on the field but was not seen by many of our troops.

A large portion of Gen Heckman's Brigade was captured including the General and all his Staff. We also captured four stands of colors. Our informant heard of 6 pieces of artillery taken, but only saw 5. two 10 pounder Parrotts, two 20 pounder Parrotts, and one 12 pounder Napoleon.

We succeeded in turning the enemy's right flank, and getting between it and the river, at an early hour; and later in the day, a vigorous attack upon the enemy's centre by Gen. Ransom, succeeded in piercing it through, and this gave us a large number of prisoners, and several pieces of cannon.

The enemy lined the woods with sharpshooters, and succeeded in killing and wounding at least 200 of our men. Our casualties will probably reach 800 the greater portion of them wounded. The wounds generally, we are pleased to hear, are very slight.

The Turnpike is now clear of the enemy, and the railroad (between Richmond and Petersburg) will be immediately repaired and put in running order.

A reconnoissance made yesterday along the entire line failed to discover the enemy anywhere near the localities which they have lately occupied. There is no doubt that he has withdrawn to his breastworks and gunboats.

From the Petersburg Express of the 19th.

CASUALTIES.—*Fifty first Reg't N C Troops.*

HEADQ'RS 51st Reg't N C T.
Clay's Farm, near Petersburg, May 17, 1864.

Editors Express: Below you will find a list of casualties in the 51st N. C. Reg't during the engagement with the enemy on the 16th inst. near Drewry's Bluff:

Co A. Capt Southerland, comd'g—Wounded: Lt W J Southerland, Sgt Jas Ennis, privates W B Byrd, W H Bullard, R J Baker, M B Farmer, T W Orr, J H Porter, slightly; J W Vanosdon, L W Moore, seriously.

B, Capt Ball comd'g—Killed: Private T L West. Wounded Corp C J Ezzell; Privates Thos Ball, A Hargrove, D J Smith, B Warters, S Rackley, Corpl N Parker, Privates Wiley Powell, severely, J Ezzell, T W Merritt, F M Merritt, L W Hollingsworth, A Guy, slightly.

C. Capt Stadford Comd'g—Killed: Joel P Atwood, L Keitaley. Wounded: Lt E L Watson; Privates D R Bostic, L R Jones, E H Keithley, Josiah Robinson, L Summerlin, slightly; Sargts W H Graddy, E J Hall, Privates John James. J D Mills, J E Register, L L Sullivan, seriously. Missing: T F Dail, W B Catson.

D. Capt McEachern comd'g—Killed: Lt J B McCallum. Wounded: Privates J Berner, J C Conoly, R Graham, T Humphrey, J A Little, R S McRae, slightly; R M Patterson, D J Currie, severely. Missing: Lt J D Malloy, Lt H McEachern, privates J T Connely, A L Rozier.

E, Capt Pope comd'g—Killed: Privates N Snipes, C J Floyd, G Grimsley, C Britt, Peter Lamb. Wounded: Capt W H Pope, seriously; privates J Butler, H G Prevatt, M Gregory, seriously; Jas R Ashley, M Bullock, N Carter, Meredith Bullock, R Williams, R Pitman, H Ivey, L Grimsley, slightly. Missing: W Hillard.

F, Capt Norment comd'g—Killed: Private Jesse Bullock. Wounded: Sgt L J Spivey, privates Jas Blanks, seriously; M Brewer, mortally; Sgts S D Watson, J C Faulk, Corp F J Floyd, Privates E Byrd, J Byrd, D McLellan, J Odum, C Bullock, Wm Humphrey, H Spivey, Wm Butler, M Bexley, Thos Ford, slightly. Missing: W H R Baxley, A Herring, D Hammons.

G. Capt Lippitt, commanding—Killed: Privates Elvany, Norris, Phillips, Strickland, S Benton. Wounded: Lt J Evans, Corp'l D F Sugg; privates N Benton, R Hinson, L Fowler, J Q Williams, J L Hinson, J C Sellars, A Noble, slightly; W A Ward, W A Nelson, W W Wilson, W J Thompson, W M Merritt, A K Kinson, seriously. Missing: Private J L Bender, J Humphrey, Danl Shaw, D Ward, S R Williams.

H. Capt Maultsby, com'dg—Killed: Privates J C Carrett, D Sowes. Wounded: A White, J C Lonnon, A Noble, mortally; Capt S W Maultsby, Jno Thompson, seriously; Jno H Cornish, J O Barefoot, slightly. Missing: G L Forzyduval.

I. Capt. Sloan, Com'dg—Killed:—Private H Bunon, D Blew, S Gilmore, J A Guy, Silas Holley, Jno Moore. M McI Smith, W L Skipper, Jno Tew. Wounded: Lt J A McArthur, slightly and a prisoner; Sergt's McD Geddie, Jno R Blue, privates Jas Adams, Jas E Guy, O Hall, Wm Holley, Jno Sandy, seriously; Sergt H L Hall, private A G Bain, Jos Breece, A J Culbreth, A Moore, A J Taylor, J D Williams, D A McWilliam, slightly. Missing: S Howard, A T Jackson, W B Porter, W D Pope.

K, Capt Murphy com'dg—Killed: Private W J T Williford. Wounded: Corp'l D H Dixon, private A Murphy, seriously; S W Williford, slightly. Missing: Capt W F Murphy, private B Watkins, H R Barden.

Killed: 1 officer 24 enlisted men. Wounded: 5 officers, 106 enlisted men. Missing: 4 officers, 20 enlisted men. Total 160

The wounded were all sent to Richmond hospitals.

The missing were captured in the rifle pits before the charge was made. The rout of the enemy was complete and their loss heavy.

H. McKETHAN, Colonel.

RATES OF FREIGHT,

ESTABLISHED BY THE PRINCIPAL LINES OF THE

Steamboat Companies Navigating the Cape Fear River.

FEBRUARY 1864.

Buggies.	25 00
Bacon, Wax and Tallow, per hhd.	10 00
Bacon, loose, per ton	40 00
Barrels, dry, per barrel	8 00
Ditto Potatoes, per barrel	5 00
Bedsteads, each	15 00
Bales Sheeting, per bale	10 00
Ditto Yarn, per bale	2 00
Ditto Waste, per 100 lbs.	10 00
Copperas, per bbl.	15 00
Cotton, per bale	25
Corn, Wheat, Oats, &c. per bushel	75
Chairs, Sitting, each	4 50
Ditto Rocking, small 2 50; large each	25 00
Coffee, per bag or barrel,	5 00
Demijohns, empty $1; filled each	5 00
Fish and Pork, per barrel	25 00
Grind Stones, per ton	5 00
Flour, per barrel	25 00
Hides, green 1 50; dry $1.	25 00
Horses, down or up.	25 00
Hay and Fodder, per bale	3 00
Iron, bar and hoop, per ton	1 00
Ditto, pig, per ton	25 00
Lime, per cask $5; ditto per barrel	5 00
Leather, loose, per side, 1 50; do, bale, per foot	1 50
Lead, per ton	20 00
Molasses, 40 gallons, per barrel	5 00
Powder, per keg, 25 lbs.	15 00
Pepper, per bag	2 50
Oil, in bbls., 31 gallons,	5 00
Salt, in bags, per bag 1 50; ditto, in bbls, 2 50 per bbl	40 00
Rice, per cask	3 00
Rosin, per barrel	25
Spirits Turpentine, per barrel	5 00
Wagons, Road,	
Soap, in boxes,	
Spirits, in hhds., pipes and casks, per gallon	
Sugar, in barrels,	
Coal, per ton, $25; ditto, per hhd., $10.	

☞ All other freights in proportion.

LIST OF CHARGES FOR PASSENGERS.

THE following rates of Passage will be charged on our Steamers:—

DOWN.	$30 00
From Fayetteville to Wilmington,	15 00
" " " Elizabeth,	20 00
" " " White Hall,	21 00
" " " Kelly's Cove,	30 00
" " " All points below.	
SECOND CLASS, OR DECK.	$20 00
From Fayetteville to Wilmington,	10 00
" " " Elizabeth,	15 00
" " " Whitehall,	15 00
" " " Kelly's Cove,	20 00
" " " All points below.	
UP.	$30 00
From Wilmington to Fayetteville,	13 50
" " " Kelly's Cove,	16 50
" " " White Hall,	20 00
" " " Elizabeth,	24 00
" " " Prospect Hall,	30 00
" " " All points above,	
SECOND CLASS, OR DECK.	$20 00
From Wilmington to Fayetteville,	10 00
" " " Kelly's Cove,	12 00
" " " White Hall and Elizabeth,	20 00
" " " All points above,	

☞ Second Class or Deck Passengers must stay on lower deck or pay full price, or same as First Class.

☞ An extra charge will be made for Way Passengers getting into Berths during day time, and for accompring a Berth with their boots or shoes on, at the discretion of the Captain.

J. A WORTH, for C. F St'm B't Co.,
T. S LUTTERLOH, for St'r N C.
R. M. ORRELL, for St'rs Kate and Sun.

May 20. 1864. 34 1m*1m

CONFEDERATE TAX NOTICE.

THE Assessors of the Confederate Tax for Robeson County will meet the people of the different Districts at the following times and places for the purpose of receiving the lists of all property and subjects required to be listed at this time, and all incomes of 1863 liable to the additional 10 per cent tax; also, all quarterly returns to the 31st of March, 1864, viz:

At Regan's, Tuesday, May 24th, 1864,
St. Pauls, Wednesday, May 25,
Lumber Bridge Thursday, May 26,
Randalsville, Friday, May 27,
Smith's, Saturday, May 28,
Alfordsville, Monday, May 30,
Thompson's, Tuesday, May 31,
White House, Wednesday, June 1,
Sterling's Mills, Thursday, June 2,
Sealey's, Friday, June 3,
Back Swamp, Saturday, June 4,
Lumberton, Monday, June 6,
Burnt Swamp, Tuesday, June 7,
All persons in Wishart's District will meet the Assessors in Lumberton, on Monday, June 6.

The Collector will be along to receive all arrearages of Taxes, and all who are in arrears are notified that payment *must* be made. Punctual attendance required of all.

J. T. POPE, } Assessors.
D. S. McGIRSON, }

May 14. 33 tsj

WANTED,

IMMEDIATELY, Five or Six good NEGROES to cut Wood 8 miles from Town. $5 per Cord will be paid. Apply immediately at Capt. McGOWAN'S Quartermaster's Office. 33-2t

May 18.

State of North Carolina,

ANSON COUNTY—IN EQUITY.

George Duren and others vs. Jesse Duren and others. Petition for Sale of Land.

IT appearing upon the Affidavit of Geo. Duren, one of the Plaintiffs, that Jesse Duren, Jonathan Duren, Wiley Duren, Abram Duren, Elizabeth Wimberly, Susannah Lemmon, Alexander Wimberly, Felix Wimberly, Joel Wimberly, Robert Wimberly, Andrew J. Wimberly, and Stacy A. Wimberly, Defendants in the above case, reside beyond the limits of this State: It is ordered that publication be made for said Defendants, in the Fayetteville Observer for six weeks, notifying them to appear at the next term of said Court, to be held on the 2d Monday in September next, at the Court House in Wadesboro', and plead, answer or demur to said petition, or judgment pro confesso will be taken, and the same heard ex parte as to them.

Witness at office in Wadesboro', 18th May 1864.

34*6t J. R. HARGRAVE, C. & M. E.

For Sale—Land in Robeson.

1030 ACRES SWAMP LAND, one mile from the Fayetteville and Lumberton Stage road, four miles from the Southern Plank Road and sixteen miles from Fayetteville. The character of this land is very superior and it can be readily drained. About 100 acres is high land. Address JOSEPH THOMPSON, Lumberton.

May 17. 33-3tipd

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA.

In the Senate, on Wednesday, a variety of documents accompanying the Governor's Message were read, viz: the Public Treasurer's Report, exhibiting in detail the condition of the Public Treasury; the Correspondence between Gov. Vance and President Davis, on the subject of negotiations for peace, showing that both the Governor and the President are anxious to terminate the war by negotiation, and that we fight only from necessity; also a letter from Gov. Vance to the President on the suspension of the writ of Habeas Corpus, giving his views against its suspension. A number of committees were appointed on various subjects of the Message.

In the House of Commons, on Wednesday, the Message was referred to various committees, and resolutions were introduced by: Mr. McKay, concerning exemptions of State officers; Mr. Avera, declaring the act suspending *habeas corpus* dangerous to the liberties of the people and calling for its repeal; Mr. McAden, looking to a suspension this year of the collection of State taxes. Bills were introduced by: Mr. Harris of C., authorizing guardians, &c. to invest in Confederate Bonds; Mr. Shepherd, to exempt from taxation corporations and societies for the education of soldiers' orphans, and relief of soldiers' families; and a number of other bills of no general interest.

Mr. Shober announced in feeling terms the death of his colleague, Capt. N. N. Fleming, of Salisbury, recently killed in battle. He offered resolutions of respect, which were responded to by Messrs. Shepherd, Carter and Harris of Cabarrus, and adopted by the House.

On Thursday, a number of committees were appointed in the Senate, viz: on blockade running, Messrs. Boyden, Smith of A, and Patton. Soldiers' families, Messrs. Young and Wooley. Habeas Corpus, Messrs. Warren and Hall. The only item of interest was the passage of a bill fixing the *per diem* of members for this session at $30.

In the Commons, Mr. Shepherd from the finance committee reported against the supension of State taxes. Also a bill exempting from taxation funds of corporations &c. for beneficiary purposes connected with soldiers' families, which was passed. Also, a bill to make holders of coupons of 8 per cent 20 year bonds present them for payment or pay 25 per cent tax; order for Friday. Nothing else of interest done.

On Friday, the Senate passed the House bill authorizing collection of taxes in $1s, $2s and new issue at par, and large notes old issue at ½ discount. Mr. Smith of Macon offered resolutions complimentary to Gov Vance, at his request laid over.

In the Commons, resolut[illegible] Gen. Hoke. Gen Ransom, Com Cook, [illegible] men, were adopted. The Senate [illegible] at $30 was passed. Mr Barns [illegible] amend the Home Guard law, and Mr She[illegible] ll to more effectually prevent liquor distil[illegible]

Death of Gen. Daniel.—Brig. Gen. Junius P Daniel is to be added to the roll of North Carolina's heroes who have perished for our independence. He was wounded in the terible battle of Thursday the 12th, and died on the ensuing day. Gen. Daniel was an officer of unusual merit. He commanded with admirable skill and trained his men with great care and precision. He was a strict disciplinarian, but so tempered his authority as to hold the affections of his troops. They were greatly devoted to him.

He was an exceedingly estimable gentleman, and deservedly respected by all who knew him. He has fallen in association with many other noble and brave men—in a holy and just cause—and a grateful country will cherish his memory.

Raleigh Confederate.

Another.—We deeply regret to learn that Maj Jas. J. Iredell, of this city, Major of the 53d N. C Regiment, is among the killed in the recent battles in Spottsylvania, Va. His death will be truly lamented by his numerous friends.—*Ib.*

Gen. M. W. Ransom.—Brig. Gen. M. W. Ransom was also wounded, we regret to say, during the skirmishing on Saturday evening. The wound is in the left arm, and a very painful one, it having become necessary to take out some three or four inches of the bone. He was conveyed to the city, and he is now at the private residence of a friend, where everything is being done for him.—*Richmond Examiner*, 16th.

The Wounded.—400 of our wounded in the battle of the 5th arrived at Lynchburg, Va., on the 7th, and 250 more on the 8th. They were principally Georgians, Mississippians and North Carolinians. The Ladies of Lynchburg met them at the depot with refreshments, and dressed their wounds. The wounds were mostly slight.

Among the wounded who arrived in Richmond on the 7th were Capt. Bost, Co. K, 46th N. C., slightly wounded above the eye; Lt. Jenkins, Co. C 46th N. C., in the head; Col. W. L. Saunders, 46th N. C., severely wounded.

On Sunday the 8th the following named North Carolinians arrived at Richmond: Lt. Geo. Wilcox 26th Reg't, Lt. M. B. Blair 26th, Lt. S. D. Thompson 15th; Capt. W. F. Avery 33d; Lt. J. G. Rencher 33d; Maj. J. C. Webb, Capt. W. R. Larkins, and Lt J. A Graham, 27th; Lt. E. B. Roberts 6th; Capt. H. W. Abernathy 34th.

Railroad Accident.—RICHMOND, May 18

OBSERVER.

FAYETTEVILLE.

MONDAY EVENING, MAY 23, 1864.

THE BATTLES.—We present a mass of news from the army to-day. We have no room for remark, except that what Gen. Lee says everybody believes, and Gen. Lee says he has repulsed the yankees' last attacks with little loss to himself and great loss to the enemy. There is every reason to hope for the final defeat of the enemy.

CASUALTIES.—In addition to the sad casualties mentioned in our paper of Thursday, we publish the entire lists of those in several Reg'ts and Companies.

Private letters and dispatches received here state that Capt. J. K. Kyle and Lt. Jas. W. Huske, 52d, of this place, were both wounded in the head in the first day's fight, and are both in the Winder Hospital at Richmond. In Captain McKellar's company, cavalry, killed, Gaston Baldwin, of Richmond county. H. Harrington, Moore. Wounded, W. L. Hybart, R F Rose and P. N. Smith. In Co. B, 56th, Lt. A. R. Carver wounded in arm. Col. C. M. Avery, 33d, reported wounded, is now reported dead. Adj't E. S. Smedes, 5th, Maj. Brooks, 20th, Capt. Brookfield, 5th, Capt. Wilfong, 12th, killed. Lt J. A. McArthur, 51st, is not a prisoner, but is at Richmond, wounded.

MR. HOLDEN AMONG THE YANKEES.—The following remarkable article is written by an officer recently returned from a long and dreary imprisonment at Johnson's Island and other yankee pens. The writer is no politician. His pursuits before the war had as little connection with politics as with arms—none whatever with either. His high personal character is a guarantee for the truthfulness of his statements.

He states facts as to the use of Mr. Holden's name, and of the articles in the Standard, the substance of which has been known to us, *and to Mr. Holden himself*, for many months past. Mr. Holden was informed, months ago, both in the yankee newspapers and verbally by citizens of the Confederacy, that his articles and those of his friends published with his approbation in the Standard, were reprinted at the North, in handbills and otherwise, by the million, and scattered broadcast over the yankee States, as evidence that North Carolina was desirous of returning to the hated and despised Union, thus encouraging a persistence in the war upon the Confederacy, and discouraging the friends of peace at the North. He has further known that those articles of his and his friends have been used by the yankees in the Eastern part of our own State as ground for a call upon Lincoln to send reinforcements to enable them to penetrate to the heart of the State for the purpose of developing the Union sentiment which Mr. Holden had thus persuaded them existed in the interior. All these things, known to Mr. Holden for months past, have had no effect upon him, except apparently to make him so much more indifferent to our success that he has ignored the many triumphs of our arms this Spring, not only not rejoicing with the readers of his Standard at our victories, but actually concealing from them all knowledge of those victories; and lately, while Gen. Lee, the soul of honor and of truth, was telegraphing to Richmond his thanks to God for the successes of our gallant troops over the hordes of Lincoln, Mr. Holden gravely assures the readers of the Standard that because Gen. Lee writes that Grant "is entrenched" near Spottsylvania C. H., that, therefore, "Gen. Lee is retiring towards Richmond and Grant is following him!" And this sad state of things—*sad if it had been true*—calls forth not one syllable of regret from the Standard!

What can the country infer from all these facts, but that the views of Mr. Holden, self-announced candidate for Governor of North Carolina, have radically changed as to that cause to maintain which *he*, on the 20th of May 1861, pledged "the last dollar and the last man"?

But we have detained our readers too long from the article of a "Paroled Prisoner."

FOR THE OBSERVER.

Among the many bitter mortifications which our prisoners have to suffer, the bitterest of all to the North Carolinians is the course of Holden and Holdenites. This I say advisedly; for I have just returned from a captivity of nearly eleven months. I was at Ft. Norfolk, Ft. Delaware, Johnson's Island and Pt. Lookout, and at all these places we suffered the greatest indignities. We were hungry and naked; we were cursed and shot at; we were eaten up by vermin, and crowded up with small pox, fevers, erysipelas and all horrible diseases; we even suffered the pangs of *thirst*, tho' Lake Erie spread its leagues of beautiful water just before our eyes; we were called d—d sons of b—chs by yankee men, and spit at and wished dead and in hell, by yankee women; we were guarded by negro troops; in a word we suffered all that yankee cowardice and malignity could inflict—and no one but a prisoner knows what yankee cowardice and malignity is.

All this was borne as only Southern soldiers can bear suffering, and much more would have been borne for a cause so holy and glorious, and from an enemy so utterly mean as the yankees.

But the course of Holden and his party was a wound received in the house of our friends, and was bitter beyond measure—a wound too, which the yankees gave no opportunity to heal; for Holden is the text of their papers, religious and political; their papers preach Holden; their preachers preach Holden; their people preach Holden. The explanation of this is easy: in their great anxiety to keep up the sinking spirits of their people and their army, they catch most eagerly at any sign of yielding among *us*, and parade it before both people and army as a proof that the South is about to be crushed and that the war is to end in 90 days. Holden and his party have accordingly been paraded, talked and preached. Through the influence of such men North Carolina was declared to be "just ready to come back into the bosom of the Union," "N. C. Troops were deserting by thousands and could not be trusted at all," "N. C. regiments were never sent out on picket by the rebel leaders for fear they would all desert." Such statements as these appeared daily in the papers; and when we would deny it and say that we *knew* all such stories to be yankee and Holden lies, they had the impudence to tell us that we knew nothing about the *present* state of feeling in N. C.; that *we* called Holden a traitor because his party was in the minority when we were with the army, but that the defeats and losses of the last year, the shortness of crops, and grand Union victories had *changed* public sentiment in the State, and that *now we and our party*, being in the minority, were traitors to the State; that Holden was to bring the State back into the Union and be Military Governor; that the N. C. troops were through his influence to come over and join the yankee army, and that "the glorious stars and stripes" were soon to wave over the graves of all rebels and traitors. And to prove all this the columns of the "Standard" were brought up, the statements of deserters given, and intelligent contrabands quoted; which three, the Standard, deserters and contrabands are the yankee authority for all signs of yielding in the South.

These are *facts*. Every one of the 350 N. C. officers on Johnson's Island would sign this paper, and would unite with me in this endeavor to inform our people that however *they* may regard Holden, the yankees regard him as a yankee—and his party as yankees—they believe in him, they preach him, they quote him; and the yankee prisoners captured at Plymouth actually shouted for him and said that after the election no yankee prisoners could be transported through N. C. because Holden would then have them rescued.

With these facts before our people, can they support Holden? Can any one of our gallant soldiers support a man who has caused their suffering fellow-soldiers such bitter mortification in captivity? Can any one who has a friend in yankee prisons support a man who has caused that friend the bitterest pang of his prison life? Can any Southern patriot, whether citizen or soldier, support a man that our enemies claim as flesh of their flesh and bone of their bone? Let any who think of supporting him remember that more than 20,000 of our bravest men, who are hungry and naked in yankee prisons, hate Holden and Holdenites worse than they hate the armed yankees and negroes who guard them and starve them.

PAROLED PRISONER.

THE SUFFERERS OF WASHINGTON, N. C.—The following letter from a refugee from this unfortunate town appeals eloquently to the people of all parts of North Carolina. For want of any concerted action in this town (which we ought by all means to have had) any amounts left at this office will be forwarded. A list is headed with a subscription of $1000 to begin with:—

WILSON, N. C., May 11th, 1864.

To the Conductors of the North Carolina Press: Gentlemen: Before the yankees evacuated the town of Washington on the 30th ult., they set fire to the town in several places, and about one-half of it was consumed. On the 4th inst., the town was again fired, (as is believed by an incendiary,) and one-half of the remainder of it was laid in ashes. *Three fourths of the town* are destroyed. Hundreds of aged men, women and children have had their houses, furniture, clothing, provisions—their all—destroyed, and they are now enduring all the horrors and sufferings incident to such a calamity. The people of Beaufort county have been so completely robbed and stripped by the yankees and negroes for two years, that they are unable to assist or alleviate the wants of the suffering. *Many of them must perish* unless the patriotic and liberal citizens of more favored localities come to the rescue. They have responded nobly to appeals made to them in behalf of other suffering communities, and I cannot believe that they will refuse their aid to these sufferers, if their claims were properly presented. I most respectfully request that you call the attention of the public to the necessities of our people, and urge them to prompt relief. Any sums of money forwarded to me at Raleigh prior to the 1st of June, and after that time to this place, will be placed in the hands of discreet citizens of the town, for the use of the most needy sufferers. Mr. James A. Willard, of Wilmington, and Mr. Martin Stevenson, of Greensboro', will receive any contributions which may be handed or sent to them for the same purpose, and I have no doubt but that the Editors of the different newspapers in the State will also receive the contributions of the liberally disposed.

Very respectfully, JNO. A. STANLY.

P. S.—It may not be amiss for me to state that Beaufort county, though within the enemy's lines for over two years, has sent to the field thirteen full companies by voluntary enlistment, out of a voting population of about 1400, and that many of the greatest sufferers by these fires are the aged fathers, mothers, wives, children and sisters of these soldiers.

THE ORPHAN ENDOWMENT FUND.—The fund collected by the Rev. Dr. Deems for the education, clothing and feeding of children of deceased soldiers already amounts to upwards of $200,000, and is constantly increasing. It is invested in real estate and bonds. The interest only is to be expended. Each donor of $50 or upwards is a Trustee and has one vote for every $50 contributed. Dr. Deems calls for additional contributions. He says:

"Let every man who has stayed at home consider what his duty is towards the children of those who have died in defence of our families and property, and who have left nothing for their children, and just what we think those men should do for us if our cases were reversed, let us do for them. Let the wise and good and charitable send me their contributions by safe hands, or by express, and they shall be properly acknowledged. Send money or bonds or your own personal obligations, made payable any date you choose, with interest from 1st January 1864. The annual interest is all that is needed. Certificates of bonds can be transferred. Make them payable to Jno. G. Williams, Treasurer of the N. C. Orphan Endowment Fund. Let them be sent to me. My address is Raleigh, N. C."

This enterprise is declared by a distinguished citizen of South Carolina to be the noblest undertaking since the war began. And right nobly have the people of North Carolina contributed to it.

"CONSERVATIVES" AND "DESTRUCTIVES."—We have always eschewed these terms, with reason, as the present state of things proves. Mr. Holden and his friends claim that *they* form the "Conservative party," and call Gov. Vance and his friends "Destructives." The present Legislature was claimed by the Standard, if we recollect aright, to be Conservative by fully a majority of two-thirds. Mr. Holden was elected its Printer by a vote of 77 to 53, (and we believe that a number of the 53 voted for his competitor because the printing office which he managed belonged to the State, at the Deaf and Dumb Asylum.) Now we learn from reliable sources that Mr. Holden has *nine*—possibly *ten*—supporters in the same Legislature. Yet he and his friends claim to be *the* Conservative party!

DAILY SALISBURY WATCHMAN.—We have received the 1st No. of a small Daily published by Mr. Bruner for the dissemination mainly of the telegraphic dispatches.

In it we find a *unanimous* resolution of the Grand Jury of Rowan county, "expressing, in behalf of the people of Rowan, their entire sanction and admiration of the official course of His Excellency Governor Vance; and earnestly commending him to the suffrages of the citizens of the county at the next election."

CANDIDATES IN WAKE.—There are two sets of candidates for the Legislature in Wake. One, understood to be Vance Conservatives, has the names of Hon. Sion H. Rogers for the Senate, Wm. Laws, Thos. J. Utley and Gen. Daniel G. Fowle for the Commons. The other, or Holden ticket, is Willie D. Jones for the Senate, W. R. Richardson, Green H. Alford and Calvin J. Rogers for the Commons.

NEW RECRUITS.—The army is about to gain two recruits, at the expense of the Press. See the following from the Confederate:—

"*Mr. Holden's Question and Our Answer.*—Mr. Holden asks in "The Standard" of yesterday, 17th: "Cannot Col. McRae be" prevailed upon "to take a bayonet also?" We answer, yes; easily. If Mr. Holden will go with us, a private soldier, to the army of Beauregard, Lee, or Johnston, we will join him. He may select the regiment and company, and we will leave in twenty-four hours after his acceptance of our proposition. And we will give bond and security, to go as near to the enemy and stay as long as he does. And Gov. Vance will furnish enough blockade brandy to relieve against "depression"—we shall not need any. Can Mr. Holden be prevailed on?"

We are curious to learn what company and regiment Mr. Holden has selected.

Mr. Holden, afraid to meet Gov. Vance on the stump, has issued a Circular in his last paper, which reached us on Saturday night. Our columns are too full of more important matter to notice it to-day. We may do so hereafter.

THE WHEAT CROP.—A letter from Richmond county says:

"Corn is *remarkably* scarce, but to offset this, the wheat crop is promising."

The War in Georgia.—The Atlanta Intelligencer of the 18th says the great battle will be fought in a few days at Kingston, on the north bank of the Etowah river. The troops are eager for the fight, but that is Gen. Johnston's ground and he will force the yankees to fight him there.

Habeas Corpus.—RICHMOND, May 21.—The debate on the Habeas Corpus question continues. A message from the President was sent to the House yesterday, in response to a resolution, stating that the public safety requires the continuance of the suspension of the writ. He says the reasons given in his special message last session, and which exist in undiminished force at the present juncture, especially require the continuance of the suspension. The effects have been most salutary, and to that law, in a considerable degree, are we indebted for the increased efficiency in military preparations, which have enabled our gallant army, under the providence of God, to beat back the invading forces which still threaten us.

[There have been various votes in the House indicating that the law will not be repealed. On Friday, Mr. Rives of Va. spoke against the repeal.]

YANKEE ACCOUNTS OF THE FIGHTING.

The Petersburg Express of the 19th has long extracts from the New York News of the 13th. [The News is Democratic and does not claim victory as do the Tribune, &c.] We copy such items as are of interest:

"The Tribune of yesterday estimates our loss thus far at 40,000! What has since occurred, it is a hopeful calculation, makes it 70,000! We claim a greater loss for the enemy; but call it equal, and there are 140,000 victims immolated within seven days of indecisive battle."

"The streets were thronged, the kerchiefs waved, the shout of admiration was heard when the Ninth Regiment of our city's best and bravest tramped gayly, boldly down Broadway, to fight the Abolition battle. In those full ranks were the youth, the manhood, and the pride of New York. Where are they now? *Of the Ninth Regiment remain four officers and fifteen men.*"

"The day will come when the authors of this war will realize their responsibility. The Abolitionist will be startled from his fanaticism by the cry of the millions who now mourn silently, but who will one day swell the inevitable chorus of broken hearts, appealing to God for vengeance upon those that wrought their sorrow."

"When Grant moved from Culpeper Courthouse, in his recent march to Richmond, he had a large *corps de reserve*, 30,000 strong, commanded by Burnside. Where is it now? For now is the time to use it. It is a reserved corps no longer. He was compelled to bring it into action on the 6th, the very second day of the fight, and it took a prominent part in the action both of that day and the 9th."

"Lieut. Gen. Grant's peculiar tactics will insure the greatest possible sacrifice of life. He evidently relies less upon strategic combinations than hard fighting. The series of battles fought during the past week were among the most sanguinary of the war. The mortality in musketry battles is far greater than when artillery is used. In a conflict of this character, the usual estimated loss is 1 per cent killed, to 3½ or 4 per cent wounded. It will be remembered that the great battles of Thursday and Friday in the Wilderness, were fought at musketry range, and but little artillery used. The number of Federals wounded in these engagements, is said to have been 15,000. The loss in killed, therefore, would reach nearly 4,000. The conflicts that followed seem to be no less bloody. The very heavy loss of general officers indicates desperate fighting."

"The Administration papers admit 40,000 lost to Grant already. *The accounts from Banks are that 11,000 remain out of 60,000: The battles of Sherman consumed 20,000, the North Carolina disasters 5,000 more.* We have here 115,000 men with all their material *hors du combat*."

"The advices from Europe in relation to the position of foreign Governments is also of a gloomy nature, and when the record of the last thirty days goes out there may be disastrous results to the remains of American credit."

Washington correspondence of the N. Y. News.

"WASHINGTON, May 11.—For four days we have had no end of the exciting rumors and exaggerated reports in relation to the great battles in Virginia. To-day the truth begins to be known, and I am now able to send you a tolerably connected and clear statement of what has really been accomplished by our armies, and of what remains to be done. It is well for the readers of the News that they have not been deluded either by the official bulletins of the Secretary of War, or with accounts of supposed victories, such as have appeared in some of the other papers. The simple truth is, that we have as yet gained no victory. We are as far from the objective point of the campaign—the capture of Richmond—as we were a week ago. We have suffered a terrible loss in killed and wounded, and we have done little more than to demonstrate the immense advantage which Gen. Lee enjoys in his various defensive positions between the Rapidan and the Pamunkey."

The Washington Chronicle, of the 10th, estimates the reduction of General Grant's force by casualties and otherwise, at thirty-five thousand men.

The correspondent of the New York Herald, writing from the battle field, Monday, sums up Grant's total losses to that date in killed, wounded and missing at 27,000. This estimate does not include the stragglers and sick. He states that the supplies of the army of the Potomac were nearly exhausted, and adds, that if the rebels give Grant as much trouble on the rest of his route as they have done thus far, his chances for success are slim indeed.

Among the accounts in the Northern papers is a letter to the N. Y. Tribune, which says that in the battle of Tuesday the 10th the "*whole force* of both armies was pitted for three hours in a hand to hand struggle without a parallel in history; the most desperate of all battles." It admits that the rebels gained "the decided advance," (advantage probably was written;) that the yankee losses were "much greater than in any of the battles of the previous week;" that their "entire loss thus far [the 10th] in killed, wounded and missing, must reach near 40,000." Other letters in the Tribune describe the complete rout of the 6th Corps, Sedgewick's, "rushing in disorderly masses out of the woods, some weaponless, some hatless, all heartless, panic-stricken and pale; some with extended neck and arms, with drooping heads and hands, and some indignantly and angrily shouting to their companions, charging them with cowardice and dishonor."

"It was the most wicked assault thus far encountered—brief in duration, but terrific in power and superhuman momentum."

LATER.—Richmond papers of the 20th inst. have yankee dates to the 14th. The Herald admits a loss of 35,000, and 12 Generals, up to but not including Thursday's fight. The Baltimore Clipper, a rabid Lincoln organ, says their loss is 40,000. Gen. Grant telegraphs to Stanton at the close of Thursday's (the 12th) fight that he had that day captured 3 to 4000 prisoners, 2 Gen'ls, and 30 pieces of artillery. (Gen. Johnson's division, beaten early in the morning—his first and only success that day.) He adds that "the enemy are obstinate and seem to have found the last ditch." An army correspondent puts their losses on that day at 18 to 25,000! There was prodigious rejoicing over Grant's victories—100 guns fired at Albany by Gov. Seymour; thanksgivings in churches; cheering and shouting in Congress; gold down to 170. One report, considerately contradicted by the gov't, was that Lee had surrendered! Another, that Butler had captured Petersburg! The most moderate, that Lee was in full retreat on Richmond, Grant after him, and Lee's retreat certain to be a rout. *But* Lincoln has called out militia—2,000 from Maryland. That shows the real state of things.

The Battles of the 12th.—A letter from the army, May 15th, says:

"During the day two charges occurred which deserve to be mentioned. About two o'clock, whilst the enemy were heavily pressing our right centre, Mahone's Virginia and Lane's North Carolina brigades were ordered to charge the enemy in their front in order to relieve the line thus heavily pressed. This was most gallantly executed. The result was that we captured some two or three hundred prisoners and four stands of colors. Later in the day Lane's brigade was ordered to take the assaulting column and a battery in flank as a diversion. Led by their gallant General, the noble brigade, under a concentrated galling fire, charged the battery of six 12-pounder Napoleons, shooting down the cannoniers and capturing the pieces. The fighting was, in several instances, hand to hand, one officer having a tussel with a yankee captain for his sword. The acts of individual bravery in this fight, as in that of the morning, were numerous. The battery horses not being at hand, the guns could not be brought off, but some four hundred prisoners and three stands of colors were captured and brought back to our lines.

"During the melee Gen. Lane was ordered by some score of yankees to surrender; but, unarmed as he was, he ordered them to throw down their arms as his prisoners. The yankees not readily complying, the General quietly remarked, "Very well, wait a moment, till my line comes up," whereupon they quickly threw down their arms, and the General made his escape."

SUNDAY MORNING, May 15.—The bearing of most of our troops was superb on Thursday last, but Harris', Mahone's, Lane's and Pegram's brigades, I have heard specially commended, as also the whole of Rodes' and Feilds' divisions. Early and Anderson, as commanders of corps, have shown extraordinary abilities and fitness for their positions.—*Pet. Exp.*

LATEST MAIL AND TELEGRAPHIC NEWS.

ANOTHER BATTLE NEAR PETERSBURG!

From the Petersburg Express of the 21st.

Heavy cannonading and infantry firing were heard at intervals through all the night of Thursday. About eleven o'clock Thursday night, the infantry firing was very rapid, and continued for an hour or more. We learned yesterday, that it was brought about by an effort of the Confederates to throw up an advance line of fortifications, which the Yankees regarded as coming too close for comfort.

Yesterday morning early slight firing commenced, and continued with increasing severity, until ten o'clock, when a charge was made by our forces upon the enemy's breastworks, and the engagement became general along the line. Martin's and Clingman's North Carolina, and Wise's Va. Brigade, participated, and although subjected to a galling fire, succeeded in driving the enemy from his breastworks, and taking possession. We lost heavily. It could not well have been otherwise as the enemy's works were of the most formidable kind, and our men charged across an open field of some 1300 yards in extent. The enemy were well posted, and besides occupying an advantageous position behind their breastworks, had one or more regiments posted in a thicket of pines, which poured a very severe enfilading fire into our charging column. The charge was highly successful, despite the advantages of the enemy, and again illustrated the valor of Confederate arms.

Our column was under the immediate command of Gen. D. H. Hill, but Gen. Beauregard was on the field. The scene of the fighting was about 7 miles from Petersburg, between Port Walthall Junction and Chester, in the county of Chesterfield, and some 2 miles east of the railroad. At the breastworks, the fighting is said to have been furious, our men bayoneting and beating such of the enemy as had the temerity to remain, with the butts of their muskets. An attempt was made to rally the fleeing foe after we had driven him out, which was successful. The enemy massed all his forces and made two desperate efforts to re-take the works but were each time most bloodily repulsed, and sent off howling to their next line of entrenchments. We captured many small arms, and secured 3 pieces of cannon.

We now have the invaders under the lead of Butler, in a very contracted neck of land, not more than 5 or 6 miles either way, and are gradually and surely closing on him. It is estimated that we drove him two miles yesterday.

Our casualties yesterday are estimated at between 5 and 600, of which number, probably 100 were killed. Many severely, but the greater portion are slightly wounded, and chiefly in the hand.

RICHMOND, May 21.—A telegram from Gen. Beauregard, dated Headquarters, this morning, says: "All quiet last night. We remain in possession of the enemy's rifle pits, and the ground gained in yesterday's fight, which was quite severe during a part of the day especially near the Ware Bottom church. I regret to say that Gen. W. S. Walker is missing, and it is feared that he fell into the hands of the enemy while gallantly leading his troops into action."

RICHMOND, May 22.—Last night the Yankees made an assault on our right, towards Petersburg, to take the position and battery lost by them on Friday. They were easily repulsed with heavy loss. Our casualties very few.

PETERSBURG, May 21.—The enemy is busy to-day entrenching 800 yards distant from the entrenchments wrested from them yesterday, under fire from our sharpshooters and field pieces above. Thirty of the enemy's pickets were brought in this evening.

[A private dispatch of yesterday's date mentions as probable a renewal of the fight yesterday or to-day.]

From Northern Virginia.—SPOTTSYLVANIA C. H., May 19.—In yesterday's fight [see Gen. Lee's dispatch in preceding page] we captured about 50 prisoners and the enemy left over 200 dead on the field. Last night the enemy retired from our left, leaving their dead unburied.

Our men to-day are busy collecting arms on that part of the field abandoned by the enemy. Many arms are being obtained which were buried by the enemy yesterday evening.

Meade, on the 13th inst., issued a congratulatory order to his troops. He claims that Lee has now abandoned his last entrenched position, so tenaciously held, suffering a loss of 18 guns, 24 colors and 8000 prisoners. Meade further says, that the fight is not over and that he (Meade) expects reinforcements, which Lee cannot possibly get.

ARMY OF NORTHERN VA., May 20.—Up to 3 o'clock yesterday nothing of interest occurred. About that time Gen. Ewell moved forward in force on an armed reconnoissance towards the enemy's right flank. About 5 o'clock our skirmishers engaged those of the enemy a little west and north of the road leading from Spottsylvania C. H. to Fredericksburg. The enemy soon brought up a heavy force, consisting of Hancock's 2d and a large part of Burnside's 9th corps, and heavy artillery troops from the defences at Washington who served as infantry. A considerable fight ensued and at one time our line of skirmishers had possession of the enemy's wagon train, but was compelled to relinquish it—not, however, until we had sent and brought off some. The fight lasted until 2 o'clock at night, when Ewell fell back to his original position, having lost in the engagement about 150 wounded, about 30 killed and a few missing. Prisoners report the enemy's loss much heavier. We captured about 100 prisoners.

Not a gun fired to-day. It is supposed Grant is awaiting reinforcements from the West in order to renew the attack.

HANOVER JUNCTION, May 22.—Grant commenced bringing his column around on our right on Friday morning. His forces occupied Milford Station and Bowling Green, yesterday evening about dark.

Gen. Wilcox in front of Spottsylvania C. H., threw forward a portion of his forces and entered the enemy's breastworks, and found them held by nine skirmishers, Grant's whole army being rapidly in motion on our right flank. This necessitated a counter movement on our side and our abandonment of the battle-ground in front of Spottsylvania C. H. Grant seems manœuvering for a position near Richmond. He is reported to have cut loose from Fredericksburg as a base and to have established depots at Port Royal and Tappahannock

Some little artillery firing near Chesterfield to-day—cause unexplained.

Milford is a point on the Fredericksburg railroad, 20 miles southwest from that city.

From Georgia.—ATLANTA, May 20.—A Press reporter who left Cass Station last night, brings intelligence of heavy skirmishing near that place, which continued until night. Our loss was comparatively small.

Report says fighting Joe Hooker was killed and his body fell into our hands.

Gen. Johnston issued his battle order yesterday, telling his troops that our communication with the rear was now safe, and asked them to imitate their brothers in Virginia and the trans-Mississippi. This was read with the wildest enthusiasm.

Our forces are in line of battle just beyond the Etowah River, with the left resting on the stream.

ATLANTA, May 21.—A column of the enemy crossed the Etowah River 8 miles above the Railroad bridge yesterday morning, moving on Marietta; and McPherson, with 15,000, crossed the night before 12 miles below Etowah Station to flank our left. These movements made a change of position necessary to our army, in order to preserve its communication, and the lines have slowly fallen back along the line of the railroad. Etowah bridge was burned last night. The advance of the enemy in force is becoming more slow as he recedes from his base. Several days may elapse before a general engagement can occur. There has been no skirmishing during the past two days.

From the Trans-Mississippi.—MERIDIAN, May 20.—Little Rock papers of the 3d inst., announce the return of Steele and his army to that place, followed by Price.

From the North.—RICHMOND, May 22.—The New York Herald of the 16th has been received. The news from Virginia is unimportant. Grant's losses to the 15th are represented at 35,000.

Gens Whiting and Martin.—The Editor of the Goldsboro' Journal writes from Petersburg on Friday: "The stories current in regard to the misconduct of Gens. Whiting and Martin were rank slanders. Both behaved well and retain their commands. There was not a particle of truth in the rumors."

CASUALTIES IN N. C. TROOPS.

18th N. C. T., Lee's Army, from May 5th to 12th inclusive

Field and Staff—Missing: Serg't Major F H Mitchell, Color Sgt Jno O Frick.

A—Killed: O Davis. Wounded: C Beatty and S A Huffman. Missing: Lt D S Bullard, Sgt Jas T Edge, Corp Jos Hawn, Cephas Beatty, P A Brown, G W Hall, F Harman, H S Love, D A Starms, J B Sutton, Henry Shook, J M Simmons, Sam'l Pollard, Jacob Hollar.

B—Wounded: R B Andrews, R Hesten, S Singletary, G G King. Missing: Sgt Phillip Evans, W R Barlow, J H Field, C Green, H Green, W O Hagler, A B Rector.

C—Wounded: Capt V V Richardson, Lt H Long, J Corl, W Hudson. Missing: Corp M B Williams, J H Baird, E Beach, W Benfield, N J Bentley, W R Best, E Canady, J S Craig, D Crump, T D Faulk, W R Faulk, G G Howell, D A Ketchy, C C Lancaster, M Scuts, J J Long, W E Long, B Millican, J Menius, J S Peevey, J F Reeves, Jno Sides, A J Soales, O P Sowers, J E Stevens, J H Thomas, E K Vause, J J McV B Williamson.

D—Wounded: Alfred Bullard, D A Bullard and A M Proffitt. Missing: Lts N Townsend and A Rowland, Sgts F G Odom, J C McKellar, Corps Jos Prevatt, W O Andrews, A Lawson; J Biggs, R Bryant, W T Blankenship, J A Clewis, A Hardin, N Hines, J E Hill, A S Ivey, J P Joynes, Alex McLellan, F A Prevatt, A J Proffitt, E W Rector, E Spivy, W B Sutton, J E King, W White.

E—Killed: M Durham. Wounded: Corp G Casin, R A Henry, S R Reeves, J Weaver, W S Pigford, T F Lowe. Missing: Lt G W Corbett, Sgt Jno F Croom; Corp H L Peterson, W H Barnhill, W Butler, L Briscoe, W J Cook, Nathan Lewis, T D Malpass, N W Miller, C J Pridgeon, J L Pigford, A B Rooks, M G Smith, J J Woodcock, Thos Weaver.

F—Killed: E Norton. Wounded: M H Murphy, A A Huckabee, J F Parsons, W M Harris, W A Ballard, J McKay, N Guffey, J P Whisnant. Missing: Lt F M McIntosh, Sgts M S McLean, A M N Smith, Wm Buchanan, Corp E P McPherson, N Beasley, J Burgs. N Brown, H C Calhoun, Jno Chance, W C Connelly, W C Davis, K J McGregson, M E McLachlin, M V McGregor, A P McKay, M G McKay, D McLean, S W Pate, A W Roper, J W Smith, R Upton, Thos Walters, J O Walters, A Jones, D Jones, W Green, A D Webb, J G Martin.

G—Killed: Sgt J B Morrison, Corp R L Reid. Wounded: E J Bowden, D Matthews. Missing: Sgts S S Averitt, Fred Nash, Corp G M Mathews, J M Dancy, G W Carlton, L W Russell, A W Hancock.

H—Killed: W J Henson. Wounded: Sgts C M Smith, Alex Lewis, Corp J F Best, J Fisher, A Winton, Lieut A M McCollum. Missing: Capt F M Wooten, Lt J S Elkins, A G Brown, J E Bullis, W L Bungamor, B Fisher, G R Guffey, J Thompson.

I—Killed: J J Atwood. Wounded. J N Godfrey, Sgt R Dawne, J Carroll, J Cane. Missing: Capt T C Lewis, Sgt A B Cook J J F Heath, M Sprinkle, L H Horn, J A Evans, J V Melton, J May, H Bland, J Bland, J W Bowen, J B Dawson

K—Wounded: Lt Jno D Canie, Corp D M Sutton, G W Meadows, N Sikes, W H Sikes, Jas Davis, W W Anderson. Missing: Sgt A Patterson, D Ferguson, J Gillespie, J L Moore, M Bins, J F Singletary, W J McDuffil

Recapitulation—Killed: Men 7; Wounded: officers 4, men 42; Missing: Officers 8, men 146. Total 207

46th N. C. T—Lee's Army

Field and Staff—Wounded: Col W L Saunders severely in mouth; Maj N McK McNeill, slightly in knee; Sgt Maj T H Wright, slightly in hand.

Co A—Killed: S Baxley, Wm Todd, F Parnell, S Faircloth, G Herring, J L Hill. Wounded. Lt F M Wishart, Sgt S Hammond, corp J J Howell, W W Taylor, J Hardin, H Flowers, J Dillard, L Sides, J A Somers, R S Davis, H Israel, B A Counsell, R H Wiatt, slight; corpl H W Pitman, (prisoner,) J A Bullard, J W Cole, H L Hammond, (prisoner,) severe.

B—(In Thursday's Observer.)

C—Killed: J Squires. Wounded: Lt T J Jenkins, sgt B M Nicholson, A J Bowden, M J Flanighan, R H Mason, J G Newton, B F Peebles, W J Paschall, A K Sherrin, S M Taylor, L B Tucker, R W E Tate, A Bishop.

D—Killed: J H Stewart, R A Hasty, S Rachels. Wounded: S Jones, Jas McBryde, E B McCormac, Chs McLean, J Waters, A McN Leach, Corpl L J Livingston, slight; H A Henderson, D Joyce, J Livingston, J A McBryde, A McDaermid, A G McGirt, W Priest, J J Pool, J H Watson, severe; R Bass, W Rachels, M Skipper, unknown; J A H McLean, mortal.

E—Killed: Corpl E Goss, C E Hitchcock, M Faribow, H E Oakley. Wounded: Sgts H Meadows, J S Hays, J Y Wheeler, corpls W K Duke, F Harries, F Usry, J T Bullock, W J Brinkley, D Birchett, A Dixon, E W Dickerson, B Ellington, W L Faribow, J Forsythe, L H Harrise, A Harries, J H Hughes, C E Jeffries; H Meadows, B L Moss, A Monk, D Oakley, R Oakley, L H O'Briant, J M Raglin, D Sandrack, W C Strodd, J T Stark, Wm Teasley, A D Weaver, T Wilkerson, A Wilkerson, Wm Wood, C Harriss, J T Grissom, T Ellis, S Thomason, L Meadows, Wm Goss.

F—Killed: Sgt A L Presnall, W C Cole. Wounded: L Spencer, W C Nance, E Tucker, Z F Conner, P Fields, P Owsar, N Owens, T C Tudlock, B C Presnall, severe; corpl W Spencer, F Hughes, A Peacock, E W Ledwell, H Sill, S Jarrell, R Beaus Jr. slight.

G—Killed: Lt T S Troy, M Gordy, D Hughes. Wounded, Sgt J W Brooks, corp T A J Futral, W P Brower, J Butler, W F Blair, L Bennett, Z Floyd, W H Hix, D Jarrett, S W Kearns, M Myers, A J Nance, J Mendenhall, E P Stinson, W B Steed, R G Wilson, slight; G W Fox. G W Hunt, J J Nance, severe; H Moffitt, mortal.

H—Killed: Lt J A B Blue, Wesley Brower, J Pence. Wounded: Lt J N McNeill, S Brower, H Brower, Archd Davis, D Darrock, D P Burnell, Wm Ferguson, C Johnson, E Monroe, T Monroe, W W McDonald, P M Lain, N R McCreiney, J O Oates, H H Riddle, O Stout, W M Stout, J C White, J Sheffield, J A Wicker, W J Wadsworth, A Ferguson, F Ferguson, slightly; corp D Bedsole, C Brady, J A Cameron, B Hales, T A Medlin, N Munroe, A Earlee, A Stokes, severely.

I—Killed: D Tew, T H Parker, J A Tart, H H C Holland. Wounded: A Williamson, J R Bradshaw, H White, J Holland, A Sessoms, I Sessoms, severely; Corpl J P Cusin, A M Autrey, P Baggett, W H McLamb, I Royal, W Spell, W N Lockman, B Warren, W S Tindall, Z Faircloth, I Sessums, J B Exzell, slightly.

K—In last Observer.

Total: Killed 39; wounded 250.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

31st Reg't, near Drewry's Bluff May 14 and 16.

Col J V Jordan received flesh wound in leg.

Co A—Killed: Capt S P Collins. Wounded: Priv'te D Mays, (since dead,) J T Hedgepath severely leg; W Bate, J W M White, H W Ivy, slight.

B—Killed: J W Sellers. Wounded: Capt J T Bradley, Lt J A Liles severely; Sergt J E Howell, Priv J A Martin, R S Johnson, W D Ballard, slight. Missing, supposed killed: J P Dumas.

C—Killed: Private M A Barchill. Wounded: Lt J C Williams, Priv A B Mason, John Johnson, G W Spivey, slight; Sergt J C Ballantine severely. Missing: S H Gardner.

D—Wounded: R Johnson, W Bailey, mortally; J S Broughton, F M Barbee, S D Sturdivant, G Turner, B Stephenson, slight; Wm Usly, G Lassiter, J R Williams, J Womble, J B Blanson, severely.

E—Wounded: Lt J H Berry, foot. Corps J S Taylor and R J Wilson. Privates W P McDade, A C Floyd, J Thompson, J F Terry, severe; A Sharp, dangerously; Sgt W W Allison, Priv Jo Baldwin, J W Hall, A West, S C Smith, slight.

F—Killed: Priv M Gurzamus. Wounded: Sergt A J Daniel, W J Griffin, J H Ward, severe; J P Williams, S G Williams, dangerously; Corp J D Price, Privates J H Griffin, W Robinson, E H Brewer, J Perry, N H Weaver, slight.

G—Killed: R D Sandiford. Wounded: Lt J D Gatling, flesh in arm; R Pierce, femed mortal; W Barnes, W Taylor, L Newsom, severe; Corps H D Harrell and J M Mitchell. Privs W Brown, H D Baker, R H Barden, H T Vaughan, slight.

H—Killed: M Burridge. Wounded: Lt A V Horton, Priv B E Scarboro', dangerously; J D Underhill, severe; Corp C D Bunn, R B Keith, D A Hopkins, W Strickland, B Hendrick, slight. Missing: T H Massey.

I—Killed: Owen Tutor. Wounded: H Smith, A B Gregory, severely; J H Smith, A Arnold, R Truelove slight. Missing: Corp J Weathers, F Drake.

K—Wounded: Sgt J H Rhodes, Corp W P Hardison, Priv J Pipkin, J F Douglas, severe; J Bennett, slight; D Long, mortally.

Clingman's Brigade fought and fell bravely.

J J COX, Capt & A Q M.

FOR THE OBSERVER.

NEAR DREWRY'S BLUFF, May 16, 1864.

Messrs. Editors:—Please publish what follows and oblige, Yours very respectfully,

J. A McALLISTER

Casualties in Co F, 24th N C T, in the engagement near Drewry's Bluff May 16th

Killed: None. Wounded: Private Rob't Brown, slightly. Captured: Corp R McKin

THE BATTLES IN VIRGINIA.

From the Richmond Examiner of the 12th.

Another bloody encounter has occurred between the joint armies of Northern Virginia. Another dead lock from which the yankee has been again thrown heavily, with very insignificant loss to our own glorious champion. Gen. Lee's bulletin gives more details than usual, and leaves no shadow of mystery, or the least room for doubt on any part of the affair. Any one of those battles would be decisive under the circumstances, and are not so now, only because Grant is in that condition when his final withdrawal is to him and his country the loss of all. There will be another and another wrestle. But every one diminishes the chance of his success. To him the first was the best opportunity. Whether Lee will be able to overwhelm him with utter destruction at the end is uncertain, but it is now quite certain that he will never rout Lee.

From the Southside the news is decided. Little danger is to be apprehended from that quarter. Beauregard is at last in position, and the enemy know it. The report is that our General determined yesterday to clear the country between the two cities; but on going forth found that the enemy had saved him the trouble. They have retired from the railroad and the late scenes of action. Where they have gone is unascertained, but it is generally believed that they are collected at the place of landing under cover of their gunboats; and our own surmise is that they will next be heard of in the Peninsula, stretching out a helping hand to the beaten cavalry, and perhaps to the beaten Grant, also.

The news of the morning yesterday was the report, started late on the night before, that the Yankees, in heavy columns, were in full speed for Richmond with Stuart and Fitzhugh Lee close on their tracks. Rumor reported them in great force, and the economic if one believed but half what he heard, made it a very serious matter. Report quickly followed report that the demonstration was not merely a raid, but that the enemy was in large force with solid columns of cavalry and artillery; that they were marching on Richmond, obstructing the roads behind them by felling trees, to impede pursuit; that they were but a few miles off, and that it was doubtless a movement planned by Grant to "take Richmond." The matter grew serious for the while. The military authorities seemed to be impressed by the alarm, and active measures were at once taken for the defence of the city. Soon after daylight, the Governor, prompted by information that had reached him, issued a stirring appeal to the citizens of Richmond, which was soon circulated and posted through the city. Nor was the appeal in vain. In a short time the entire arms-bearing population of Richmond turned out, and repaired to the Capitol Squre, where they awaited information from the enemy, before they should march to the field. Here anxiety was on the tip-toe. Nothing had been heard from the enemy since the report on the night before, when they were reported in rapid march on Richmond. In a few hours came the news from the Governor's house, that Gen. Bragg had received a dispatch from Gen. Stuart at Ashland, a copy of which we obtained:

"HEADQ'RS, ASHLAND, May 11, 6:30, A. M.

To Gen. Bragg:—General—The enemy reached this point just before us but were promptly whipped out after a sharp fight by Fitz Lee's advance, killing and capturing quite a number.

"Gen. Gordon is in the immediate rear of the enemy. I intersect the road the enemy is marching on, at Yellow tavern, the head of the turnpike, six miles from Richmond.

"My men and horses are tired, hungry, and jaded, but all right. J. E. B. STUART."

Soon after this came another dispatch, from Gen. Stuart, stating that he had arrived at Yellow tavern, six miles from Richmond, the point where he expected to cut off the enemy, but that he had found none of them there, that they had probably turned off on the road leading to Dover's mills, in Goochland, and adding that his men were "pressing closely."

This decided the matter, and the excitement here subsided. It was plain the yankees had concluded not "to take Richmond," and finding themselves closely pursued, wisely switched off on another road. It was supposed that they were making to Dover mills with the intention to cut the canal, and then cross the river at that point and make their way to their army on the South side.

The strength of this expedition of the enemy is variously given. Accounts place it at five, seven, ten, fifteen thousand. A scout who came in yesterday, and who is regarded by the military authorities as a very trustworthy man, states that the enemy's forces were seen by him, and that they were *four hours passing a given point*. This would indicate that they were in large force. He further states that they had large numbers of wagons, ambulances, &c.

LATER, SHARP FIGHTING GOING ON.

Just as the people of Richmond were relieved with the thought that the city was once more safe, and congratulating themselves that the yankees had abandoned their advance on the city and were retreating, news came suddenly last evening, about eight o'clock, that the enemy had been seen on the Brook turnpike, and that fighting was going on near what is known as Brook Church, only some three or four miles of the city. It appears that as a detachment of the Sixth Virginia cavalry, numbering sixty men, were on their way out with ammunition for Gen. Stuart, in the afternoon, the enemy fell upon them near Brook Church, and a sharp fight ensued—our men first taking the precaution to destroy the ammunition they carried, and then pitching into the fight with great spirit. The fight was quite sharp for a while, but it relaxed into a desultory firing, which was kept up for several hours. The enemy threw out their sharpshooters, and about nightfall the enemy's force was increased, and the fight was renewed.

Accounts rought in last night at ten o'clock say the fight was still going on. The enemy, (put by these accounts at 10,000,) attacked Stuart near the Yellow Tavern, at the head of the Brooke turnpike, with great obstinacy, making several charges, in one of which they took 1 piece of artillery and recaptured some 2 or 300 prisoners—killing a number of officers, Col. H. Clay Pate, of Petersburg, among others.

We inquired at Gen. Ransom's headquarters last night, but could get no confirmation of this news.

THE LATEST FROM GENERAL LEE'S ARMY.

The public mind, which had become considerably exercised by anxiety for Gen'l Lee's army, was much relieved yesterday by the following official dispatch from him:

"SPOTTSYLVANIA COURT HOUSE, via }
GUINEA'S" May 11 }

"Honorable Secretary of War: Gen Grant's army is intrenched near this place on both sides of the Brooke road.

"Frequent skirmishing occurred yesterday and today; each army is endeavouring to discover the position of the other.

"To day the enemy shelled our lines, and made several assaults with infantry against different points, particularly on our left, held by Gen R. H Anderson. The last, which occurred after sunset, was the most obstinate—some of the enemy leaping over the breastworks. They were easily repulsed, except in front of Doles' brigade, where they drove our men from their position, and from a four gun battery there posted.

"The men were soon rallied, and by dark our line was re-established and the battery recovered.

"A large body of the enemy moved around on the evening of the 9th, and took possession of the road about midway between Spa— and Grove church and the Court House.

"Gen Early, with a part of Hill's corps, drove them back this evening, taking one gun and a few prisoners. Thanks to Merciful Providence, our casualties have been small. Among the wounded are Brig. Gen. —ayes and H. H. Walker.

"R. E. LEE."

THE ENEMY ON THE SOUTHSIDE.

It was expected that a reconnoissance in strong force would have been made yesterday morning from Petersburg to feel the enemy's position, and open, if possible, communication from Petersburg to Drewry's Bluff and Richmond. But this, for some reason, was not done, and those who were looking for a battle to be fought yesterday were disappointed by the tame news that came in during the morning. The first Bulletin of the morning was the following official dispatch from Gen. Ransom, dated Drewry's Bluff:

"The enemy fell back last night from their position yesterday, towards James river, apparently in some haste. Their pickets have appeared in large numbers, on James river, in the vicinity of Howlett's and Dutch gap, on the Southside. R. RANSOM, Jr."

The next news from that quarter was the following official dispatch received by General Bragg, dated at Chaffin's Bluff:

"The enemy's pickets do not extend far this side of Howlett's house. They are not opposite Cox's wharf, as reported this morning, and there are no signs of their crossing this side."

We learn from an officer who passed over the field, that the Yankee loss, in killed and wounded, in the affair of Tuesday was not less than one thousand, or at least five to one. A number of the wounded Yankees were consumed in the burning woods. Our own wounded were all removed to the rear.

The latest report is, that the yankees have gone back to Bermuda Hundreds. On the other hand, an officer from Curl's Neck says that the enemy are erecting a wharf on the opposite side of the river.

SPEARS' RAID AGAINST THE WELDON RAILROAD

We have some further particulars of Spears' raid on the Petersburg and Weldon railroad. After burning the railroad bridge at Stony Creek, Spears pushed on, crossed Nottoway river, evidently making for the Meherrin bridge and leaving the bridge over the Nottoway to be destroyed upon his return. But upon reaching Jarratt's depot he found, unexpectedly, a considerable Confederate force there which gave him battle, in which he was driven back with the loss of several of his command. In the meantime the 59th and 26th Va. regiments and a company of the Holcombe S. C. legion, all under Col. Tabb, had reached Nottoway river bridge, and upon Spears' return they were prepared for him. A severe battle ensued, which lasted 4 hours. By means of their artillery the enemy managed to destroy the bridge, but they were subsequently so terribly repulsed that they had to send in a flag of truce to ask permission to bury their dead, which they were allowed to do, and then they retreated in an easterly direction on the north side of the river. Their loss is thought to have been pretty heavy. Our loss was 4 killed, and a number wounded.

Spears is reported to have had at least 2,500 mounted men, with 6 pieces of artillery.

PRESS DISPATCHES.

BATTLE FIELD, near Spottsylvania C. H., May 10.—The last heavy fighting on the Wilderness battle ground occurred on Friday evening. During Saturday nothing occurred, save skirmishing. Grant began leaving our front near Perkins' Store in the Wilderness on Saturday night. Gen Lee about the same time sent forward some troops to watch the enemy's movements and to keep between Grant and Richmond. Our infantry collided with the enemy about 10 o'clock Sunday morning, near Spottsylvania C. H., Fitz Lee's cavalry having been previously heavily engaged at the same place all the morning. A severe fight resulted, in which our forces, under Gen. Kershaw, repulsed the enemy, inflicting upon them a heavy loss, the enemy's killed and wounded being estimated at ten to our one. Ours about 400.

Later in the day, Kershaw was again engaged, and also Rodes; both repulsed the enemy. The yankee Gen. Robinson, commanding the 2d division of the 5th corps, was killed.

During the night of Sunday our forces were formed in line of battle around Spottsylvania C. H.—our right resting about 1 mile beyond the C. H., towards the Fredericksburg Railroad. Both sides threw up fortifications Sunday night. Yesterday and Monday there was skirmishing at intervals all day. Johnston's North Carolina Brigade, and the Stonewall (Va.) Brigade repulsed an attack of the enemy, and about night succeded in getting the road over which our wagon train was passing, but our trains had all gotten safely by.

The enemy occupied Fredericksburg as a new base on Sunday night. Yesterday they held the town and Spottsylvania C. H. and the telegraph road—the latter some 12 miles out.

A. P. Hill is sick, and Gen. Early is commanding his corps.

The enemy was continually shifting his troops from right to left yesterday, requiring similar moves on our part.

The troops are much fatigued, but in good spirits and confident of success.

Large quantities of small arms and *debris* of all sorts, were left by the enemy in the trenches on the Wilderness battle field.

Anderson's division, Sunday, captured a battalion of cavalry with a line of sharp-shooters.

The yankee Gen. Wadsworth died in our hospital yesterday. It is reported also that the yankee Gens. Warren and Sedgewick were killed.

Brig Gen. Gordon (Georgia) has been promoted to Major General on the field, for his gallantry.

There was heavy cannonading on our left and centre from early this morning until 2 P. M., when the Press Agent left for the telegraph station. Field's line of skirmishers had been warmly engaged with the enemy, and had repulsed him three times. Fitz Lee had also driven the enemy back some 2 miles on the left.

The weather is exceedingly oppressive, and the roads are deep in dust.

The yankees fought with great obstinacy on Sunday, and actually bayoneted our men at their breastworks, whilst our men, their ammunition having been exhausted, had to use the butts of their muskets to repulse the enemy.

BATTLE-FIELD NEAR SPOTTSYLVANIA C. H., May 11.

There was heavy cannonading all yesterday. About 12 o'clock, the enemy having got possession of the road leading to the main road to Louisa C. H, with a large force, Heth's Division was sent to drive them off, which was accomplished with but slight loss to us. Our troops drove the enemy back some 3 or 4 miles, and out of their lines of breastworks, capturing 1 piece of artillery, 1 caisson, and 150 prisoners.

Among those wounded on our side, was Brig Gen. H. H Walker of Va., whose foot has been amputated.

Between 10 o'clock and nightfall the enemy made repeated assaults upon Field's Division, but were handsomely repulsed in every instance by our line of skirmishers, Field's line-of-battle never finding it necessary to engage them. Field's loss was very trifling.

Very near dark the enemy made a most vigorous and determined assault upon Rodes' line-of-battle, driving Daniel's and Doles' lines-of-battle from their breastworks, and capturing 6 pieces of our artillery. Johnston's North Carolina, Walker's Stonewall Virginia, and Gordon's Georgia Brigades, however, quickly came to their assistance, driving the enemy back, and recapturing our lost guns.

The enemy's loss is said to be very heavy, especially in Field's and Rodes' front. The enemy are certainly fighting with great nerve and desperation.

The yankee Maj. Gen. Sedgewick is certainly killed.

On other parts of the line yesterday there was nothing but heavy skirmishing.

Hayes, of Louisiana, was wounded in the leg yesterday, but not dangerously.

The enemy have three pontoon bridges over the Rappahannock.

Fredericksburg is said to be filled with yankee wounded, the number being estimated as high as 15,000. The enemy's loss thus far is believed to be fully 30,000—some have it 40,000.

Stuart's cavalry have been unceasingly fighting and pursuing the enemy, and have done excellent service.

Our position is very strong.

Grant has issued orders congratulating his troops on their *success*—telling them that Petersburg was in the hands of the yankees, and begging them to fight hard.

Our troops, though wearied, are in good fighting plight, and confident of final success.

The enemy, in a raid around our lines, captured a few of Ewell's ordnance wagons, and recaptured some of their prisoners on their way to the railroad.

Up to noon to-day there has been no general engagement; but some skirmishing and occasional discharges of artillery on our right.

Everything is progressing well, and the army is in no danger of suffering for want of supplies.

ANOTHER ACCOUNT OF THE FIRST WEEK'S FIGHTING.

Correspondence of the Richmond Dispatch.

ARMY OF NORTHERN VA., May 7.

As I wrote you on Thursday, the enemy began to cross the Rapidan at Ely's and Germanna fords on Tuesday night. Early on Wednesday morning a force of the enemy's cavalry and artillery, having crossed at these fords, moved by the roads leading to Chancellorsville and Fredericksburg to *Spot Church*, about six miles above the latter place, where they established heavy pickets. On Wednesday, the enemy having laid down pontoons across the Rapidan river, their whole force was busily engaged all day in crossing, and about nightfall had succeeded in throwing across their whole force. On Wednesday night the enemy bivouacked in and near Chancellorsville. And early on Thursday morning their column began to bear up the turnpike and plank road, *i. e.* the force which crossed at Ely's. At the same time the force which crossed at Germanna moved across and over the turnpike, as if intending to join the force which was moving on those roads. In order to understand the situation, let me explain, that Orange C. H. is on the direct line of railway from Alexandria to Richmond, distant from the former place about 78 miles, and from the latter about 37 miles. Orange C. H is also about 6 miles south of the Rapidan railroad Bridge, and is the base of our supplies and the depot for our wounded. The battle-field is about 25 miles below or East of Orange C. H, along the high-ways of the plank and turnpike roads which connect Orange C. H with Fredericksburg. The enemy having pushed up the plank and turnpike roads, also moved across and seized the Gatharpin and Brook roads, which run nearly parallel with the plank and turnpike roads, and to the south of these. Their object in thus acting is interpreted by some as meaning that they intended, had they not been molested by General Lee, to have moved forward towards Milford Depot, and thus to have turned Gen. Lee's flank and caused him to fall back. The more probable hypothesis is, that they seized these roads in order to provide against a flank movement.

THE FIGHTING THURSDAY EVENING.

On Thursday evening as the enemy were moving across from Germanna ford towards the plank road, Gen. Ewell's corps, which was moving down the turnpike road, struck the head of their column as it was passing the pike. Heavy skirmishing at once ensued, and soon the enemy finding themselves much pressed, turned and attacked us. Johnson's division occupied the left of the turnpike, and stretching over towards the river, his right resting on the turnpike road, and Rodes occupying the right, with his left joining Johnson's right on the pike, while Early was held in reserve. About 1 P. M., the enemy made a furious onset upon Brig. Gen. J. M. Jones' Virginia brigade, who held the advance and the extremity of Johnson's division by Battle's brigade, and the other three brigades of Rodes' division. The fight which ensued was contested with great obstinacy until about 3 P. M., when a lull ensued, our men having repulsed the enemy most handsomely. During the attack on Battle's brigade, and just at a time it was being rapidly forced back, Gordon's brigade was ordered forward, and made one of the grandest charges of the war, forcing the enemy back at all points. Later in the evening, about 5 o'clock, they again made a desperate assault upon Johnson's lines, which was most gallantly and handsomely repulsed, our troops remaining masters of the field, and the yankee killed and wounded being piled up in great numbers before our breastworks. The enemy not knowing that we had any breastworks, charged us, and were terribly cut to pieces.

In this engagement Brig. Gen. Pegram was severely wounded in the thigh. During the first of these engagements the gallant J. M. Jones, of Va., was killed under the following circumstances: His brigade, it seems, except the 21st Va., under Col. Witcher, was faltering and rapidly firing, when Gen. J., in nothing daunted, rode to the front and called to his men to rally around him. At the same moment Capt Early, his A. A. G., and Captain Moore, his A. D. C., rode to his side, and emulating the courage of their noble leader, were making ineffectual efforts to rally their men, when they then becoming prominent marks for the enemy's sharpshooters were quickly picked off. Capt. Early fell dead, and Capt Moore fell severely wounded. The conduct of the brigade has been and, doubtless, will be much animadverted upon. In extenuation it may be mentioned that this brigade has made some splendid fights during the war, that the enemy advanced in heavy force and very suddenly, and that this brigade afterwards reformed and fought most courageously.

Whilst matters were thus progressing on Ewell's front the enemy in heavy force advanced to attack Heth and Wilcox. A warm and desperate fight ensued, lasting from 3 o'clock until sundown. The result was that the enemy were held in check, and repulsed on this part of the line as well as in front of Ewell. During the night Lane's pickets succeeded in surprising the enemy and capturing about 300 prisoners.

THE CAPTURE.

Ewell, in the fights on his front during this evening, captured about 1000 prisoners, including 30 or 40 commissioned officers, besides a good number of yankee wounded who fell in our hands. Gen. Johnson, of Ewell's corps, also captured during this evening's fights, 2 pieces of artillery including horses, harness and gear. We also lost about 200 prisoners from Gen J. M. Jones's brigade in the first engagement in the early part of this day. Altogether, the result of the first day's engagement was a most decided success to us, especially along Ewell's lines. Indeed Ewell, who is always up to time and action, covered himself all over with glory, as did his gallant Major Gens. Johnson, Rodes and Early.

Whilst the infantry were thus engaged the cavalry were not idle. Rosser with his single brigade fought Wilson's, formerly Kilpatrick's, cavalry division all day Thursday, and finally succeeded in forcing it to give back. His loss was about 200 as well as I can ascertain.

COMMENCEMENT OF THE FIGHT FRIDAY.

On Thursday night the enemy began to move slightly around to our right, and early on Friday morning (yesterday) they advanced in heavy force on Ewell's front, with six lines of battle, and fought most obstinately. Ewell's boys, and especially Early's, remembering the advice of the sage of Bunker's Hill, watched until they saw the whites of the enemy's eyes, and then poured into them such a volley of leaden missiles as caused them to reel and stagger, and finally to give back, not, however, until the dead on Ewell's front were strewn thick around. One advance upon and reconcissance of Ewell's position, which was strongly fortified, seemed to satisfy them, and they made no further assault during the day. Gen. E. simply held his ground, and so there was no further fighting on our left wing. Simultaneously with the advance upon Ewell's lines, the enemy also made a move against our centre, engaging Heth and Wilcox, for some time without any result, when the enemy, becoming very strong in front of these divisions, began to force them rapidly back. At this opportune moment the gallant Kershaw and his heroic braves, moved rapidly up, engaged the enemy, first checking their onset upon Heth and Wilcox, then repulsing them, and finally driving the enemy before him.

LONGSTREET'S FLANK MOVEMENT.

About 11 o'clock, Lieut. General Longstreet having planned a most brilliant flank movement, was advancing at the head of his column to the right of the plank road, in order to be certain of its successful consummation, when, by a mistake growing out of the fact that our troops mistook him and his staff for yankees, he was fired upon. The result was that Lieut Gen Longstreet was wounded painfully, but not dangerously, in the left shoulder, the ball entering obliquely and passing upwards.

The same fire which thus deprived the country temporarily of one of its ablest, purest and most gallant officers, robbed the country, by death, of Brig. General Jenkins of S. C., who was instantly killed. Gen. Fields temporarily took Lieut. Gen. Longstreet's place, and kept up the movement, from which Longstreet very justly expected the happiest results. The enemy began gradually to give way, and by 4 p. m. had been pressed back some two miles—i. e., our right and centre had swung around, driving the enemy back and in towards the river, our left meantime standing fast. About 4 p. m the heaviest fighting ceased. From then until night brisk skirmishing was kept up.

Our loss thus far will be fully 6000, of which a much larger per centage than usual are officers. A very large number are also but slightly wounded, and will soon be able to return to duty. The battle-field is about 25 miles east of this place and in almost a direct line towards Fredericksburg. The country, like that around Chancellorsville, and of which, indeed, it is a continuation, is a dense wilderness—as Gen Lee aptly said, a "tangled wilderness"—and as such, it is utterly unsuited for the use of artillery. Indeed, during the entire fights there have not been over 100 discharges of artillery.

Last night all was quiet. This morning, about 4 a. m., I left the front. Just before day there was some picket firing on Hill's front, and about sunrise heavy cannonading was heard in the direction of Ewell's line.

The body of the yankee General, Wadsworth was found in front of our lines, and also the body of a General with the initials "H. H. C," supposed to be the yankee General Carr. It is also reported that the dead body of the yankee General Hayes, who was captured last year at Chancellorsville, has been found inside of our lines.

BRILLIANT FLANK MOVEMENTS.

MAY 7, P. M.—Yesterday evening between sundown and dark, Brig. Gen. Gordon's Georgia brigade, of Early's division, and Brig. Gen. R. D. Johnston's North Carolina brigade, of Rodes' division, executed a brilliant flank movement on our extreme left, and another on our extreme right, at a point about 4 miles above Germanna ford. The result may be briefly stated—in the capture of some 400 men and 2 Brigadier Generals, Seymour of Florida notoriety, and Shaler of New York, formerly a Captain in the Seventh New York regiment. These officers were brought to the Provost Marshal General's office yesterday evening.

The yankee losses thus far, in killed and wounded, are believed by a good judge, on excellent data, not to be less than 20,000. Our losses will reach 7000.

It is estimated that we have in our possession nearly 2000 of the enemy's wounded.

It is rumored here to-night, and believed, that Sedgwick was killed last night by Gordon and Johnston when they executed their flank movement.

The yankee Generals who were captured, report the death of Brig. Gen. Hays, of their army.

Much hard fighting has been done by all the troops, but Ewell and his men are the heroes of the fight.

THE NORTH CAROLINIANS AT PETERSBURG.

The Petersburg Express of Wednesday last has the following account of the first fight around Petersburg. The 51st Reg't is commanded by Col. Hector McKethan of this Town and the men are altogether from this section of the State:—

About half-past 11 o'clock on Monday night, our citizens were startled by several heavy discharges of musketry in Chesterfield county, the sound proceeding from a point due north of Petersburg. Anxiety was on tip-toe to ascertain the cause, but it was not ascertained until nearly 4 o'clock, just before the dawn of day. At that hour a guard came in with a Yankee who had come into our lines, and gave the particulars. On the enemy's extreme right, which had been pushed around, Monday afternoon, to Brander's Bridge, he placed a heavy picket guard, consisting of a New Hampshire regiment, amounting to 800 men, picked troops. They were somewhat isolated from the main body of the yankee forces, a fact which our Generals were not slow to perceive. Two companies of the 51st N. C. Reg't, Gen. Clingman's brigade, were selected to make a night assault on these sons of New Hampshire, and see if they could not be induced to "change their base." The assault was sharp, sudden and decisive. With a rush, the brave Carolinians got within close proximity of the foe, and poured into him a deadly volley. Before he could recover from his surprise, another galling fire greeted him, and yet another a moment or two after, which proved rather warm for frigid New Hampshire, and the blue coats started off in wild confusion, shaping their course towards Bermuda Hundreds. It was a beautiful starlight night, and the dark moving mass could be distinctly seen, so the Carolinians had but to aim at the mass, and they were bound to hit. Every volley from our men was answered by a scream from the wounded, and thus the race progressed until we had driven the New Hampshire yankees back and across the turnpike and on over the railroad, a distance of some two miles or more. By this time, the whole yankee camp was frightened out of its wits, and our men deemed it imprudent to pursue further. They returned without the loss of a man. It was ascertained yesterday that we killed and wounded a large number of the enemy in this night assault.

CASUALTIES

General and Staff, Cooke's Brigade.—Killed: Capt R W Anderson, Ordnance officer. Wounded: Capt Jas A Graham, Brigade Inspector, badly in knee.

Fifteenth Reg't, Cooke's Brigade, up to 8th inst.

Co A—Wounded: Privates Jos E Stephenson, hand, slightly; J W Pate, hand, slightly.

B—Killed: Private W L Scott. Wounded: Sgt J B Long, slightly, neck; Corpls J B Sikes, slightly, hand; J M Austin, thigh; privates W W Alexander, slightly, face; J R Dostew, arm, amputated; W H Lemmond, arm; J C Sikes, hand; C B Sikes, hand; R E Summer, hand; L M Thompson, hand; J B Stugall, arm and thigh; M J Waters, severely, arm.

C—Killed: A M Love, C Jacobs. Wounded: Lt W R Hardin, slightly, head; Sgt J B Love, color bearer, slightly, head; Corpl J G Blunton, hand; privates W L Blunton, hand; J W Champion, hand; J A Hamrick, neck; E Hunt, arm; P G Humphries, knee; G W King, foot; J McGraw, breast; P P Spake, shoulder; R Simpson, thigh; G B Pannell, arm; D H Hamrick, foot.

D—Killed: Sgt J A Riggsbee, private Joe Hatley. Wounded: Privates T C Council, slight, arm; W Hathcock, severely, thigh; W A Neal, hip; L Hatley, severely, arm; T B Marks, arm; W P Cooke, slightly, hand; J G Bennett, slightly, hand; F M Riggsbee, slight, face; H Williamson, slight, shoulder; G W Eubanks, slight, arm; J R Webb, slight, hand; J E Riggsbee, slight, thigh; J M Cole, hip; W P Cole, not known.

E—Killed: Private R R Moore. Wounded: Lt J A Morris, slight, leg; Sgt W C Hart, slight, breast; Corpl R Holden, seriously, shoulder; J B Davy, thigh broken; privates W H Allen, badly, hand; J R Card, severely, back; Levi Bailey, slight, hand and elbow; Dennis Carver, arm broken; J H Frazier, severely, arm; G W Falkner, slight, breast; W H Goswick, slight, head; D Harriss, badly, arm; M C Holmes, slight, shoulder; W J Long, arm fractured; W T McCraw, slight, knee; B G Merton, slight, thigh.

F—Wounded: Sgts Hailond, slight, hand; G Lixton, severely, thigh; Corpls John Horarine, severely, shoulder; G D Spence, slight, side; privates J M Bullard, badly, thigh; T H Barnes, slight, head; John Black, slight, thigh; W C Colville, arm; John Gilbert, slight, shoulder; W H Hewitt, knee; F M Jordan, arm; John McDougald, hand; John McRusy, arm; J A Mock, hand; L Mock, severely, arm and breast; A Matthews, slight, thigh; T L Robinson, severely, arm.

G—Killed: Private H Allen. Wounded: Sgt W C C Gupton, slight, head; Corpls H H Gilliam, slight, foot; J A Longmire, thigh; privates W N Harris, badly, head; J R Harris, arm; Independent volunteer Wm Cutler, slight, hand.

H—Killed: J W Harris. Wounded: Lt D S Thompson, shoulder, slight; privates G W C Bradshaw, badly, hip; A P Bryan, slight, breast; W T Wilson, shoulder; D M Garnet, severe, hand; W Ray, shoulder; W P Roberts, badly, hand.

I—Wounded: Lt B T Hart, slight, arm; Sgts G W Cherry, severely, both legs, right since amputated; J C Bass, slight, face; Corpl R P Rick, slight, head; privates W Black, shoulder; A Garnett, arm; W Holland, shoulder; H Pate, head; A Waddle, leg; W Howell, serious, groins.

K—Killed: Private W R Brown. Wounded: Lt H H Griffin, neck and shoulder; Sgt W G Fisher, slight, arm; Corpl R D Long slight, head; J R Womble hip; privates W Bartholomew, hip; W H Fisher, chin shot off; W H Freedle, wrist; J Hill, knee; R Hinkle, bowels; D D Leonard, face; Dal Leonard, leg; E J Moore, elbow; D D Moore, badly, face; H Martin, shoulder, slight; J D Neal, hand, slight; John Melton, head; C Robins, badly, back; G W Thomas, slight, arm; Joe Whitley, face; Jas Long, neck; D Loouis, very slight, back; D Hesrick, face; J D Boseman, slight, thigh. Missing: J C Jordan, H Hardy, J A Hyatt.

E. W. HOWERTON,
Chaplain 15th Reg't N C T.

Co. B, 46th N. C. T., Rowan County.

Killed: Capt N N Fleming, Lt Geo Horah, Privates J P Beaver, Jno L Pless, Ben Wyse. Wounded: Lt J J Steward, Sgts Jacob Klutts, C C Harryman, W P Coon, Corp C Potts, Privates Jos Basinger, J M Basinger, M A Gheen, C A Waggoner, D S Kaupp, Jeremiah Klutts, W N Mayhew, Wm Rogers, David Parks, David Terry, David Rich, W L Winemeln, severely: Wm Farr, slightly; Geo Goodman, W A Gurley, Eli Hornbseger, A Sloop, J C Starnes, A J Taylor, J P Taylor, Rufus Trexler, R R Wyatt, L Lane, W Lane, T Terry, J H Hampton, slightly; J F Agner, arm amputated. Total: 5 killed, 32 wounded.

Co. K, 46th N. C. T., Catawba county.

Killed: Corp W H Shuford, Privates W P Cline, W P Haun, J L Hartsel, J G Luis, M L Sigman, J A Settlemire, H J K Workman. Wounded: Capt A T Bost, Sgts R A Bost and L W Roth, severely in face; Sgt J D Rowe, mortally; Corp R M Norwood, severely; Privates Caleb Abernathy, M A Beavy, H L Bumgardner, slightly; A W Bost, B W Boyd, J W Bandy, G W Clodfelter, severely; Calvin Cobb, H H Caldwell, W L Deaton, slightly; D F Finger, W L Hewitt, J L Hewett, seriously; J Hass, O M Jarrett, S E Killian, J W L Smyer, Cal Setzer, W L Setzer, L Sigman, Levi Travenstein, L L Thronesburg, A S Essrd, P V Gilbert, slightly; Wm Wike, severely; J L Wilson, Hen Weaver, slightly; L G Whitener, L Whitener, Chas Parker, severely; H H Robinson, B A Smyer, slightly. Total: 8 killed, 39 wounded.

We are authorized to announce

Capt. H. J HARRISS, Co. A, 10th Batt. Artly, as a candidate to represent Randolph county in the next Legislature of N. C., in the House of Commons.

We are further authorized to say that the Capt. is one of the strong Conservatives, and is in favor of negotiating as well as fighting for Peace. That he was not an original secessionist, was opposed to the war in the beginning, and is a staunch friend of Vance. Has been in the service nearly three years.

April 28. 28 11tpd

EDWARD PAYSON HALL

WOULD respectfully announce to the public his constant and utmost willingness to give instruction to as many as may feel inclined to attend at his Academy, near Christ Church, Rowan county, N. C. His method of communicating knowledge being principally by short oral and practical lectures, the number of pupils he feels himself capable of permanently benefitting would be by no means limited; and during the present distressing scarcity of schools, and urgent demand for the most impassioned earnestness among teachers, his soul burns with the liveliest zeal to extend to every child within his reach the benign influence of education. He would briefly state the following, as the leading features of his plan:—

1. That the chief lesson and the chief habit to be inculcated is OBEDIENCE.

2. A *habit of observation* should be formed in the student. This will inevitably insure his future progress in learning. The business of education is half completed, whenever this habit is formed.

3. That a thorough knowledge of Grecian and Roman Literature, derived from reading the pages of the ancient classics, should form the *ground work*, not the *gaudy pinnacle* of the educational fabric.

4. That all *book-studies* should first be presented in oral and practical lectures. All the lessons, both in foreign languages and in English, in the Higher Mathematics and the Natural Sciences, (not even excepting English Grammar and Orthography,) are first pronounced and explained by the teacher, and repeated by the pupil, till the latter understands the import and correct intonation and pronunciation of every word. By this means knowledge is much more rapidly acquired—everything being learnt correctly, there is nothing to unlearn, and as the pupil is compelled to exhibit his understanding of the subject, *Rote* and *vague verbal description* can have no evil influence over his mind.

5. The method of teaching the Latin and Greek is that pursued in the Italian Universities and the University of Otho at Athens. By adopting this course, the pupil, without much metaphysical or grammatical training, is immediately introduced to a practical acquaintance with the languages. The Polish youth learn Latin thus, in every town of that country, in a period scarcely ever exceeding two years.

6. That punishment should constitute the *exception* not the *rule* in school-government.

7. That *thought* can in no wise exist without *affection*.

Rates of tuition still remain at the old standard, payable in produce, or its equivalent in value.

The institution is situated within a short distance of the line of the W. N. C. Railroad, 12 miles from Salisbury, and within sight of the Third Creek Station.

March 6. 16tpd

WAR NEWS.

From Gen. Lee and his Army.—All well with the Confederates.—Terrible Slaughter of the Yankees.—BATTLE FIELD, near Spottsylvania C. H., May 16, via Milford 17.—The enemy during Saturday abandoned the front on our left, requiring new dispositions of our forces. This move by Grant is evidently for the purpose of building up and covering the railroad in order to use it for transporting supplies.

The enemy thus far, are reported to acknowledge a loss of *thirty-one General officers and forty-five thousand men.* They left a hospital with their wounded, near Yellow Church, on Sunday, containing about 700 of their men and a few of ours. They left a large number of unburied dead on our left from whence they retired. They also left on our front, yesterday, 13 caissons and 21 gun carriages. This shows they left their front line hurriedly.

No general engagement to-day, only slight skirmishing, and some cannonading late this evening.

Gen. A. P. Hill did not command his corps, but was on the field, lending the aid of his presence to Gen Early. A large quantity of arms were left by the enemy on the battle field which have been appropriated by our men and taken off.

The enemy are fortifying on their lines which are now contracted, as if massing their troops.

It is reported that the enemy have destroyed Catherine Furnace.

Our army is still in bright spirits. Gen. Lee yesterday issued a congratulatory order to the troops, recounting our success in various parts of the Confederacy, and concluding as follows:

"The heroic valor of this army, with the blessing of Almighty God, has, thus far, checked the advance of the principal army of the enemy and inflicted upon it heavy loss.

"The eyes and hearts of your countrymen are turned to you with confidence, and their prayers attend you in your gallant struggle. Encouraged by the success which has been vouchsafed to us and stimulated by the great interests that depend upon the issue, let every man resolve to endure all and brave all, until, by the assistance of a just and merciful God, the enemy shall be driven back and peace secured to our country.

"Continue to emulate the valor of your comrades who have fallen, and remember that it depends upon you whether they have died in vain. It is in your power under God to defeat the last grand effort of the enemy, secure the independence of your native land, and earn the lasting love and gratitude of your countrymen and the admiration of mankind."

Great Slaughter of Yankees at Spottsylvania C. H.—PETERSBURG, May 16.—The enemy were repulsed with a loss of twenty thousand at Spottsylvania C. H., on Thursday, by Mahone's (Virginia) and Lane's (North Carolina) Brigades.

From Richmond.—RICHMOND, May 17.—The only event of interest that has transpired here since my former dispatch is, the reported landing of a force of the enemy's infantry below Chaffin's Bluff, 10 miles east of Richmond. All quiet at Chesterfield to-day: nothing from Lee's army.

Fighting around Petersburg.—Glorious Confederate Success.—PETERSBURG, May 16.—Heavy firing this morning at Drewry's Bluff, and between there and Dunlap's farm. The enemy are near Belfield on both sides of the railroad to Weldon.

LATER.—11:20 a. m. Many prisoners have been taken. The operations of to-day near this city were entirely successful. The enemy were driven several miles, losing many men, wagons and ambulances. Our entire loss not over thirty.

Gen. Dearing made a gallant charge at Chester, capturing a strong position and many stores.

Gen. Beauregard drove back the centre, leaving one thousand dead yankees on the field. Gen. Ransom had turned their right flanks at noon. The yankee Gen'l Hickman is captured.

PETERSBURG, May 17.—The enemy have gone from our front to his entrenchments at Bermuda Hundreds. The turnpike road to Richmond is now open. Spear's raiders are 8 miles this side of Jarratt's. General rejoicing here over Lee's victory.

From Georgia.—ATLANTA, May 16.—Since the repulse of the enemy at Dalton, he has been moving around our left, closely followed by Johnston, who has held him in check in every effort against our lines. On Friday the attempt against Resaca was resumed, and continued through Saturday and Sunday. Every attack was successfully repulsed, with small loss on our side.

Yankee raid in Mississippi.—MERIDIAN, May 16.—The yankee raid reported at Pickens Station, on the Mississippi Central R. R., has turned back, after destroying four rail road bridges.

From the North—Great Slaughter in Grant's Army.—Tremendous Rise in Gold.—MOBILE, May 17.—The operator at Holly Springs on the 16th, via Jackson, reports on the authority of Chicago Times, of the 12th, that Grant's loss in the Virginia fights was 27,000, including 10 General Officers. The general purport of the news admits Grant's defeat.

PETERSBURG, May 16.—New York papers of the 11th have been received. The Herald admits a loss of 27,000 in Grant's army.

Gold 210 in New York on Monday.

[The last quotation was 173—a rise of 37 per cent.]

A Yankee Blockader Captured.—TALLAHASSEE, May 9.—Mr. I. R. Harris, who has just arrived at Quincy, from West Florida, states that the blockade steamer off Apalachicola was captured with all on board (about 150 men,) last night by an expedition of launches. No loss on our side. Further particulars not at hand.

Blown Up.—By this morning's train from below, we learn by passengers, that another of the enemy's fine steamers was blown to atoms, on yesterday, by a torpedo, a short distance below Jacksonville. She had on board 4 guns and was crowded with troops, all of which, it is supposed, were l